





# Judge rules life begins at conception

MARYVILLE, Tennessee, Sept 22, (AP): A woman fighting for control of seven frozen embryos in an unprecedented divorce case has been awarded temporary custody by a judge who ruled that life begins at conception and the woman should be allowed to carry them to term.

Clout country circuit judge W. Dale Young, ruling in favour of Mary Sue Davis over her estranged husband, Junior Lewis Davis, declared yesterday that their embryos were children not property.

"I'm thrilled. It's definitely what I wanted," Mrs. Davis told reporters at a news conference in Titusville, Florida, where

she now lives.

Davis said he would appeal in the state court system, and potentially beyond. "They are going to force me to become a father against my wishes," he said.

Mrs. Davis said she would not try to get pregnant immediately. "I'm waiting to see about the appeal then hopefully after that try to have a child," she said. "I could (try) at any time. But I have to recover from all of this and then consider starting the programme."

She added that the earliest she would try to get pregnant was January.

"As far as we are aware, this is the first

judicial decision which has declared an embryo a human being," said Charles Clifford, Davis' attorney, adding that he would ask the court to prevent Mrs. Davis from implanting the embryos until appeals are settled.

Clifford said the ruling could conflict with the Supreme Court's landmark Roe vs. Wade decision allowing women to have abortions. Janet Mayfield, the attorney who will handle Davis' appeal, said the decision might also conflict with state laws on property interests and anatomical gifts.

The case grew out of the decade-old technology of "test-tube babies," or in-

vitro fertilisation. The Davises became embroiled in the dispute after they were unable to have children and turned to in-vitro fertilisation.

The couple produced nine embryos in December under the guidance of Dr. I. Ray King at a Knoxville, Tennessee, clinic. Two were implanted in Mrs. Davis but failed to develop. The others were put in cold storage. But then, Davis sued for divorce in February.

During testimony in August, Davis, 31, said he would feel "raped of my reproductive rights" if Mrs. Davis were allowed to implant the embryos without his consent.

## Scientists find clue to Aids

Immune system tricked into switching off

WASHINGTON, Sept 22, (Reuters): Scientists said yesterday they had found evidence showing that the Aids virus may work by tricking the body's disease-fighting immune system into switching itself off.

The new findings would be important to the search for a vaccine against Aids, one of the scientists, Michael Hoffmann of New York's Sloan-Kettering Institute, said in a telephone interview.

In a laboratory test, Hoffmann and Robert Mittler of Bristol-Myers Co. found that antibodies created by the body to fight off Aids infection combined with a protein on the shell of the Aids

virus known as GP-120.

The result was a compound that, in the laboratory, paralysed white blood cells known as T-cells which are central to the body's disease-fighting system.

"Nobody has the foggiest idea why immune deficiency develops (in Aids) but we think this gives us a clue," Hoffmann told Reuters.

"It also could explain why you never get immunodeficiency until after the body begins producing antibodies against HIV (the Aids virus)," Hoffmann added.



IRA bomb attack

Rescue workers carrying bodies from the rubble of an IRA bomb attack in Deal, England. (Reuters wirephoto)

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## PEOPLE AND PLACES

WASHINGTON: District of Columbia Mayor Marion Barry apologised publicly Wednesday for an obscene hand gesture — the closed-fist extension of his middle finger — he made last weekend to partygoers at a festival in the city.

Barry began his monthly news conference saying he agreed to make a formal apology after city council member Frank Smith had delivered a letter requesting the apology.

Barry claimed the hand gesture was in response to a "boisterous" band of hecklers who verbally attacked his wife and mother-in-law at the annual Adams Morgan Day Festival.

"Just for the record, if I offended some people — and I'm sure I did — I want to apologise for what I did," Barry said. (UPI)

CHICAGO: Christian scientists, who do not smoke or drink but shun medical care as part of their religion, die earlier than those who do not share their beliefs, a researcher said on Thursday.

The researcher found that death rates among more than 5,500 alumni of a Christian Science College over a 50-year period were significantly higher than a group of nearly 30,000 non-Christian scientists who graduated from the University of Kansas during the same era.

William Simpson of Emporia State University in Kansas, whose study is published in this week's Journal of the American Medical Association, traced graduates of Principia College in Elmhurst, Illinois, from 1934 through 1983. (Reuters)

BREMEN, West Germany: A 30-year-old woman and the former girlfriend he kidnapped were both found shot to death at a Bremen hotel on Wednesday, ending a hostage-taking incident that began six days ago.

Bremen police spokesman Rolf Luken said that Christian Klens apparently killed his former fiancée, Bettina Luken, with three shots to her chest, then shot himself in the head.

Luken said the apparent murder-suicide took place shortly after 6:09 am (0409 GMT), when a team of six police entered the downtown Bremen hotel where the couple were staying. (AP)

VATICAN CITY: Women priests are a major obstacle to reunification of the Catholic and Anglican churches, the Vatican newspaper said on Thursday, before next week's first official visit by the Anglican primate to the Vatican.

The issue of women's ordination has shown itself to be a substantial obstacle on the road to reconciliation between the Catholic church and the Anglican community, said a front-page article in L'Osservatore Romano.

Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie, the Anglican primate, is due in Rome next week for his first official visit to the Vatican. He will have several meetings with the Pope. (Reuters)

VATICAN CITY: Pope John Paul II on Wednesday announced he will soon elevate to sainthood Agnes of Bohemia, a 13th century nun who cared for the poor.

Speaking to a group of Czech pilgrims during his weekly general audience, the Pope said: "During this month you celebrate Saint Ladislaus and Saint Wenceslaus, martyrs who testified Christ with their blood. From the same royal family comes the blessed Agnes of Prague, whom I will soon canonize."

Agnes of Bohemia, who lived in Prague between 1205 and 1282, was the daughter of the King of Bohemia. She built a hospital for the poor, founded an order of nurses to staff it, and in 1232 built a Franciscan Friary and a convent closely connected with the Order of Aids. She was beatified by Pius IX in 1874.

HARARE, Zimbabwe: Veteran white politician Ian Smith said Thursday American investigators linked his name with alleged racketeers who smuggled ivory and rare animal skins into the United States.

But Smith, 70, said he sold a leopard skin to American John

Lukman without knowing he needed a permit to do so.

The former prime minister of Rhodesia, a one-time British colony that became black-governed Zimbabwe in 1980, told the Associated Press US authorities found a leopard skin bearing his name after the arrest in New Haven, Connecticut of Lukman.

Lukman, 35, was accused of heading a smuggling ring that evaded US conservation laws banning the importation of ivory, rhinoceros horn, rare skins and other wild animal trophies from southern Africa. (AP)

WASHINGTON: A new study out Thursday warned lens wearers against sleeping in them and said "extended wear" contact lenses are 10-15 times likely to develop sight-threatening eye infections than those who remove their lenses each day.

The most serious problem, according to the study, an ulcerative infection of the cornea, the clear part of the eye on which the lenses rest, has been linked chiefly to the use of soft lenses, particularly the extended-wear lenses.

According to the study, the longer a contact lens is worn, the greater the risk of developing a corneal ulcer. The studies show that with each consecutive day a person keeps lenses in, the risk of ulcer grows by five per cent over the risk incurred by those who take them out at night. (KUNA)

CINCINNATI: Debbie Dase is such a loyal Rolling Stone fan that she waited in line four days last July to make sure she got seats for the Rock 'n' Roll group's Cincinnati concert.

But just as Stones singer Mick Jagger wails, "I Can't Get No Satisfaction," Dase got no satisfaction from Riverfront stadium officials when she tried to attend the concert last week.

Dase, 35, suffers from rheumatoid arthritis and relies on a motorized scooter to get around. Long before the Cincinnati concert, she called stadium officials and made sure she could sit in the best she bought at the city-owned stadium instead of seats far away designated for the handicapped.

But she, her husband and a couple of relatives arrived at the stadium two hours before the concert, everything went wrong. Nobody working at the stadium knew anything about the arrangements city officials had made for Dase.

As she was about to take her seat, a security guard ordered her out of the motorized scooter.

But this week, a Cleveland radio station came, like the Rolling Stones song says, to her "emotional rescue".

I'm not crazy  
**Hinckley**  
**appeals**

WASHINGTON, Sept 22, (Reuters): The man who shot former President Ronald Reagan in 1981 and is now in a mental ward pleaded insanity on Wednesday for the right to give news interviews to prove to the public he is not crazy.

But his psychiatrist, Raymond Patterson, testified that John Hinckley Jr still suffers severe mental illness, compares himself to Adolf Hitler, and remains obsessed with movie star Julie Foster — whom he said he was trying to impress with his attack on Reagan.

For 8 1/2 years, there has been this picture of me... as this sick, depressed psychotic patient who is dangerous to himself and others," Hinckley an inmate in Washington's St Elizabeth's psychiatric hospital, told a court hearing on his request to be allowed to talk to the press.

"For me to be in this image, it is (necessary) to explain my side, why I am not this severely ill person," he added.

Hospital officials have denied Hinckley's requests for interviews, saying they would aggravate his mental illness and disrupt treatment programmes on the ward.

He said he and his partner, Bob Garbe, a pharmacist in Columbus, Ohio, have made five flights in the last three years in search of the ark on the 5,400-metre-high (16,000-foot) mountain, which is known in Turkish as Agri Dag.

The glacier on the mountain only melts enough to expose the boat every 20 or 30 years, said Aaron.

Aaron and Garbe belong to the Orlando-based Immanuel Expeditions Foundation. Aaron said they used donations and \$60,000 of their funds to finance the expedition.

He said they plan to return next year for a June climb to the spot with a team of 20 that will include geologists and archaeologists.

Aaron said they based their search on information provided by an American pilot, Ed Davis of Albuquerque, New Mexico, who saw the same boat shape at the same spot during a flight in 1943 and other sightings.

At least three different American groups searching for the ark have focused their attention on a formation that also lies on the southwest side, but at the much lower altitude of 1,585 metres (5,200) feet.

**Bingo Day 6**  
51 26 54 4

**New Bible purged of sexism, archaic words**

LONDON, Sept 22, (Reuters): A revised English-language Bible, purged of sexism, archaic words and "Britishisms" that confound Americans, was launched yesterday by a former Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Coggan.

The Oxford University Press said "the revised English Bible," the result of 15 years' work, was tailored to the needs of a 20th-century congregation rather than "an old-fashioned country clergyman" — a reference to the sometimes archaic language of the standard Bible.

The new version deletes references to "men" and

replaces them with "people," where translators believe the original writers meant both sexes. But God is still referred to as "He."

Words which are innocuous enough in Britain, but have embarrassing or confusing meanings in the United States are removed and replaced.

The word "ass," for instance, is replaced by the word "donkey" acceptable on both sides of the Atlantic.

A phrase referring to Moses "whom the Lord knew person to person" is rewritten to avoid conjuring up bizarre images of a long-distance telephone call among American Christians.



Ground to death

This 12-metre orca whale weighing 6 tonnes was grounded, Sept 18 on the Flouenour-Trez beach (western France). The mammal lives generally in the North-Atlantic ocean. Sea-scientists will try to establish the reasons of its death. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Another claim on Noah's Ark site

ISTANBUL, Sept 22, (AP): Two Americans claimed yesterday to have discovered Noah's Ark on the southwest side of Mt Ararat in eastern Turkey while flying over it by helicopter.

Chuck Aaron, the pilot, said a square boat shape was spotted 4,400 metres (14,500 feet) up on the mountain in a place usually covered by glaciers that retreat this summer because of the high temperatures in the region near the Soviet border.

"We are 100 per cent sure this is the ark," Aaron said in a telephone interview.

There have been various claims for the discovery of the ark since Turkey lifted a ban on climbing the mountain in 1982.

Many Christian fundamentalists, who interpret the Bible literally, believe the ark must be on Mt Ararat. The Biblical account in the Book of Genesis said that after the Great Deluge, the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat with Noah's family and a cargo of male and female pairs of every kind of animal.

But geologists say even though there is evidence of a flood in Mesopotamia in Sumerian times, they maintain it is not possible for a ship to make landfall at an altitude as high as Mt Ararat.

Aaron, who is from Orlando, Florida, said they discovered and photographed the object they believe is the ark during a Sept 15 flight.

He said he and his partner, Bob Garbe, a pharmacist in Columbus, Ohio, have made five flights in the last three years in search of the ark on the 5,400-metre-high (16,000-foot) mountain, which is known in Turkish as Agri Dag.

The glacier on the mountain only melts enough to expose the boat every 20 or 30 years, said Aaron.

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## Reign of terror over Court rules in Night Stalker

LOS ANGELES, Sept 22, (UPI): Richard Ramirez, a self-proclaimed devil worshipper from Texas found guilty on Wednesday of 13 murders and 30 other felonies committed during the two-year reign of terror of the Night Stalker.

Among the convictions handed down by a superior court jury were several murders with special circumstances, which, under California law, carry a minimum penalty of life in prison and a maximum sentence of death in the gas chamber.

Ramirez, 29, a lanky drifter from El Paso, was found guilty of 13 murders, including the first slaying attributed to the Night Stalker — the stabbing death of Jennie Vincow, 39, in her apartment in the Eagle Rock area of Los Angeles on June 27, 1984. He also was convicted of burglarizing Vincow's home.

The jury also reached verdicts on 12 other murders and 29 other felonies. Those verdicts, reached on the 22nd day of deliberations, were read one by one.

Ramirez elected to waive his right to be present during the reading of the verdicts and instead listened to the proceeding from a holding cell.

The jury's deliberations were a rocky process that were forced to resume anew after one juror was dismissed for sleeping and a second juror, Phyllis Singleton, was found shot to death on Aug 14 by her boyfriend, who later committed suicide. Alternates replaced both those jurors.

Prosecutors charged that in a series of horrific late-night and early morning assaults, Ramirez broke into darkened homes and attacked his victims while they slept, shooting many of them and bludgeoning or stabbing to death others.

Ramirez did not take the stand to testify during the trial.

The charges against him stemmed from 15 different incidents involving 25 victims, 13 of whom were killed in attacks that began in the summer of 1984 and continued until Aug 8, 1985.

The crime spree prompted a sharp increase in the sales of guns and home alarm systems by panicked citizens and touched off a massive police manhunt.

Some of the attacks were tinged with satanic influences. Ramirez, who shouted out "hail satan" at an early pre-trial appearance, was accused of forcing one of his rape victims to swear allegations to satan.

He allegedly drew pentagrams, a symbol associated with satanic worship, on the body of one victim, and gouged out the eyes of another.

But prosecutors never argued that the killings were committed as part of a satanic ritual.

At the trial, deputy district attorneys P. Philip Halpin and Alan Yoshida called 138 witnesses, including six female survivors of the attacks who identified Ramirez as their assailant.

## Aide found guilty

Alpine Manor case verdict

GRAND RAPIDS, Michigan, Sept 22, (UPI): A circuit court jury found a former nurse's aide guilty on Wednesday of smothering five elderly patients at a nursing home in suburban Walker.

Gwendolyn Gale Graham was convicted on five counts of first-degree murder and one count of conspiracy to commit murder. First-degree murder carries a mandatory sentence of life in prison without parole.

The jury of nine women and three men deliberated for about a half-hour on Tuesday and for just over six hours, including a lunch break, Wednesday, before announcing the verdict.

Defence attorney James Piazza said he planned to file motions for a new trial and to have the verdict set aside.

Graham showed no emotion when the verdict was read and Piazza refused to characterize her reaction to it.

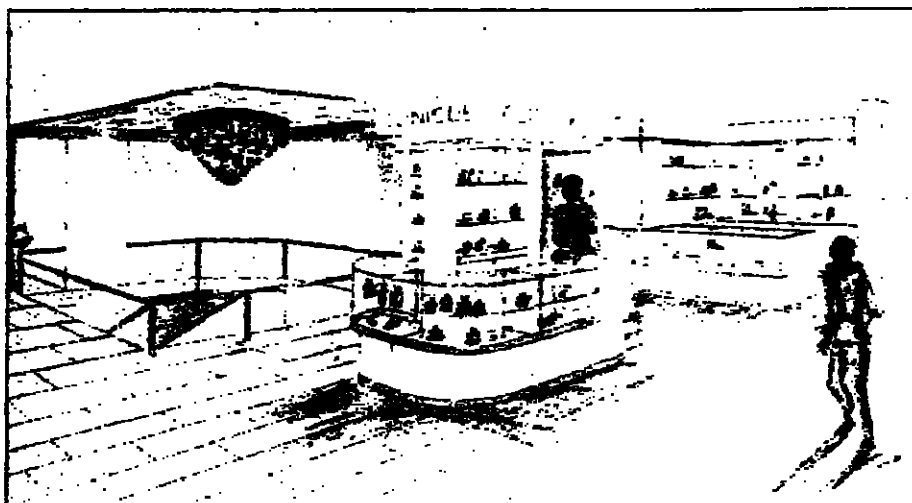
The 26-year-old Graham testified on Tuesday that she and former nurse's aide supervisor Cathy Wood — her live-in lover — fabricated a story about killing patients at Alpine Manor Nursing Home to shock another lesbian co-worker with whom they had both been involved.

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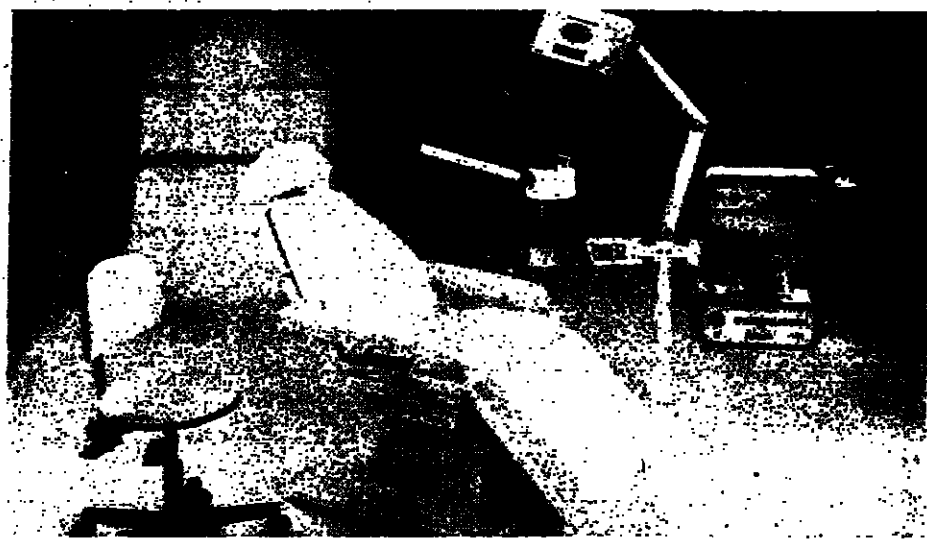
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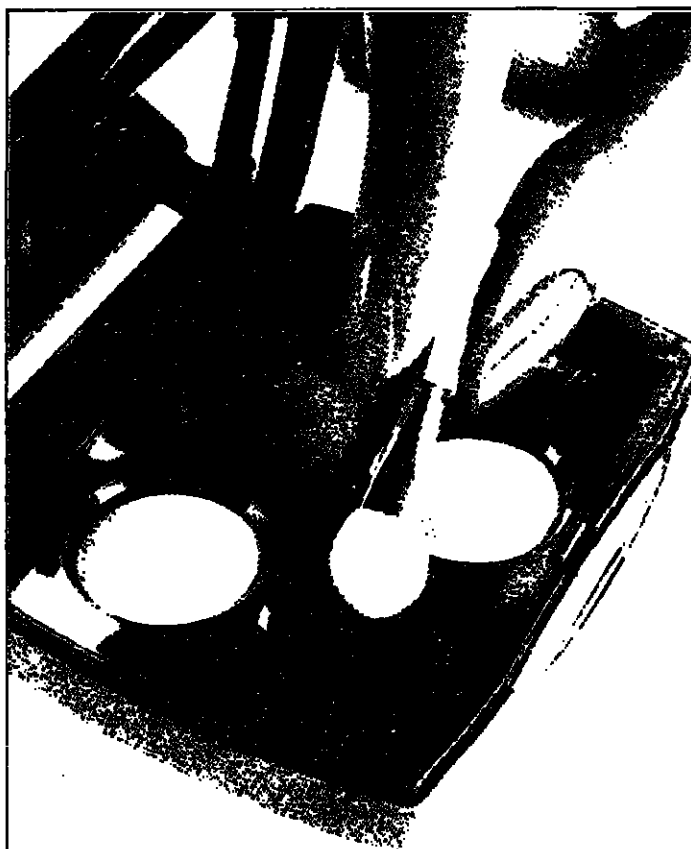
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# Christine Dior



### CAPTURE FOR EYES

Christian Dior



الضالّل الأربعة : الألوان الكامدة

# CHANEL

الموزعين في الكويت: شركة حبشي وشلهوب. تليفون: ٢٢٢٢٢٢



# Gloria stays on top of pop

NEW YORK, Sept. 22, (AP) — "Don't Wanna Lose You" kept Gloria Estefan at the top of the pop singles record charts in the United States for the second week in a row.

"Heaven" by the group Warrant hopped up one notch to second place on the Cash Box magazine chart, while Milli Vanilli's "Girl I'm Gonna Miss You" soared from seventh to third.

Climbing fast on the top 10 list was "Cherish" by Madonna, up from 11th to 6th. The week's only other newcomer was "One" by the Bee Gees, up from 12th to 9th.

Last week's number two hit, "Hangin' Tough" by New Kids on the Block, nosedived to 10th place.

As for the country-and-western singles, the Judds took over number one on the Cash Box magazine chart with "Let Me Tell You Above Love." Lionel Cartwright's "Give Me His Last Chance" was second, and Clint Black's "Killing Time" was third.

Also making their first appearance in the Top Ten this week are "The Time Warp" by Damian and Tina Turner's "The Best."

This week's top 10 singles, as listed by our Price Music Ltd., the national music retail chain, with last week's positions in parentheses:

- (1) Ride On Time — Black Box (De-Construction).
- (2) Pump Up The Jam — Techno-Noise (Felly/Swanyard).
- (3) Right Here Waiting — Richard Marx (EMI).
- (4) If Only I Could — Sydney Youngblood (Circa).
- (5) Cherish — Madonna (Sire).
- (6) I Need Your Lovin' — Alyson Williams (DEF Jam-CBS).
- (7) The Time Warp — Damian (Jive).
- (8) Sowing The Seeds Of Love — Tears For Fears (Fontana).
- (9) The Best — Tina Turner (Capitol).
- (10) Numero Uno — Starlight (Citybeat).

The top 10 pop singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

- (1) Don't Wanna Lose You — Gloria Estefan (Epic).
- (2) Heaven — Warrant (Columbia).
- (3) Girl I'm Gonna Miss You — Milli Vanilli (Arista).
- (4) If I Could Turn Back Time — Cher (Geffen).
- (5) Shower Me With Your Love — Surface (Columbia).
- (6) Cherish — Madonna (Sire).
- (7) 1018 And Life — Skid Row (Atlantic).
- (8) Keep On Movin' — Soul II Soul (Virgin).
- (9) One — Bee Gees (Warner Brothers).
- (10) Hangin' Tough — New Kids on the Block (Columbia).

The top 10 country-western singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

- (1) Let Me Tell You About Love — The Judds (Curb-RCA).
- (2) Give Me His Last Chance — Lionel Cartwright (MCA).
- (3) Killing Time — Clint Black (RCA).
- (4) Above And Beyond — Rodney Crowell (Columbia).
- (5) Nothing I Can Do About It Now — Willie Nelson (Columbia).
- (6) Don't You — The Forester Sisters (Warner Brothers).
- (7) I Got Dreams — Steve Wariner (MCA).
- (8) 21 Wonder Why You Think Of Me — Keith Whitley (RCA).
- (9) Hello Trouble — Desert Rose Band (Curb-MCA).
- (10) I Wish I Had A Heart Of Stone — Baillie and the Boys (RCA).

## Jail term for swindle

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 22, (AP) — A former business manager to Tom Hanks, Christopher Atkins and other stars was sentenced to one year in jail for his conviction on charges that he embezzled more than \$500,000 from his celebrity clients.

Mick Schneider, 40, also was ordered by superior court judge Gordon Ringer to pay \$250,000 in restitution to his clients and continue to attend Alcoholics Anonymous and Cocaine Anonymous meetings.

Schneider pleaded to contest in March to grand theft charges after he was accused of stealing \$200,000 from Hanks, the star of the movies "Splash" and "Big," and \$66,900 from Atkins, star of the movie "Blue Lagoon" and a former regular on the television series "Dallas."

which is what Gabor testified Kramer did to her on June 14.

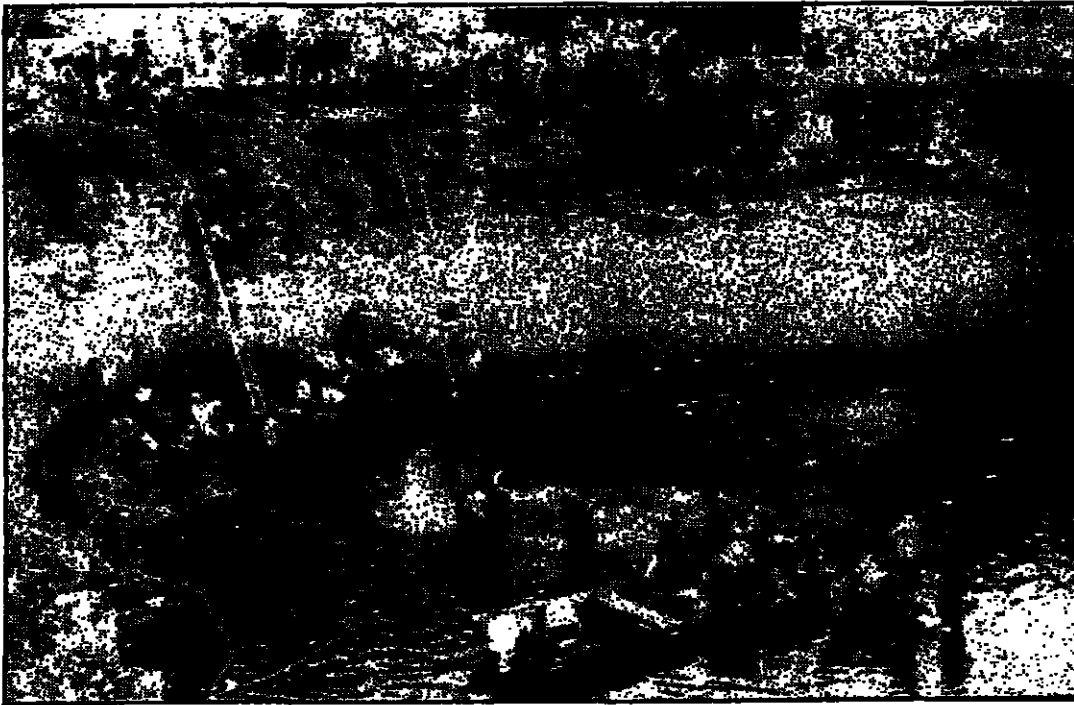
At that point, Jonkers said, her daughter started crying and now "every time by daughter sees a police officer or hears a siren, she says, 'is that mean man going to take mommy away?'"

Jonkers said she flew to California at her own expense "to try to set the record straight about how abusive this man is."

Jonkers, the sister-in-law of Orion Pictures executive Michael Medavoy, said she refused to sign the citation because she was in the process of moving to Virginia and Kramer told her she



Maria Delores Sandovan prays at a memorial service for 19 schoolchildren killed. (Reuter wirephoto)



Rescue workers remove victims from the school bus. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Bus accident kills 19 64 injured as truck hits

ALTON, Texas, Sept. 22, (AP) — Local high school students are mourning the deaths of 19 classmates killed in the worst school bus accident in the state's history, and police are investigating why a delivery truck rammed into the bus.

The school bus, crowded with some 80 students, plunged more than 40 feet 12 meters into a water-filled pit yesterday after it was hit by a soft-drink delivery truck that had run a stop sign, witnesses and survivors said.

Nineteen students died and 64 other people were injured, five critically.

Dazed survivors scrambled out of the submerged bus and stood on it, screaming for help. Passers-by dived in 12 feet (3.6 metres) of water to pull out survivors and the dead trapped in the bus.

Four boats, firefighters from six departments and about 10 divers helped in the rescue, as notebooks and school papers floated in the murky water.

"I thought I was going to die," Alex de Leon, 18, said as he stood in front of mission hospital in muddy pants and hospital slippers, with cuts on his face and bruised hands. "It just filled up with water real quick."

## Bus collides with train, kills 12

ZAGREB, Yugoslavia, Sept. 22, (UPI) — A bus carrying 50 schoolchildren collided on a level crossing with a commuter train in dense fog at Zagreb in northwestern Yugoslavia today, killing 12 pupils and injuring more than 20, police said.

The accident occurred at 8:36 am when the bus taking school children, a girl between seven and 11 years, was driving across the unprotected crossing. The bus was en route from Zagreb, outside Zagreb, to the Stubbice Toplice SPA nearby.

"I opened up a window, took out my sister, took out a couple of friends and it was already full of water, and you could smell the diesel," he said.

"They were just trapped. We had to break the glass of the windows to get in," said Ali Nye, a diver who pulled seven bodies from the bus.

The bus driver had picked up the last of his 20 students en route to nearby mission high school when the bus was hit by a soft-drink truck about 7:40 am (1240 GMT) at an intersection just east of Alton, just north of the US-Mexico border.

Leon and other survivors said

the truck driver ran a stop sign and struck the bus, sending it careening off the road about 20 feet (six metres) and into the gravel pit. The truck remained alongside the road.

Truck driver Ruben Perez said his brakes failed, said Sgt Israel Pacheco of the state department of public safety. The truck passed a state inspection last week, Coca-Cola officials said.

No charges have been filed against Perez, but police are investigating the cause of the accident. Roads were dry and the weather was clear at the time.

Authorities used a crane to pull the bus from the pit and dragged the pit for victims. Rescuers later called off their search and said no students were missing.

All the dead were 12 to 18 years old, said Mike Cox, a public safety spokesman in Austin. A temporary morgue was set up at a civic building in mission.

Frantic parents rushed to the scene and swamped phone lines at the school and police station. One woman was carried away in an ambulance, hysterical after seeing the bodies of her two daughters pulled from the water, the Monitor newspaper in McAllen reported.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Endara begins fast:** Former Panamanian opposition candidate Guillermo Endara began a hunger strike on Wednesday to promote a civil disobedience campaign to try to oust military strongman General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Endara said he would remain on hunger strike until the campaign called "Not One Cent More" was backed by the Panamanian people.

The opposition launched the campaign today, calling on Panamanians not to pay electricity, telephone or water bills and to boycott pro-government newspapers and state-run lotteries.

"I do this as a personal offering to the people that today suffer from hunger for justice, democracy and liberty," the presidential candidate in annulled elections last May said of his hunger strike at a news conference. (Reuter)

**Emergency landing:** A helicopter carrying President Carlos Salinas de Gortari made an emergency landing yesterday in a semi-desert area in the northern state of Coahuila, a government communiqué said.

No one was hurt, the statement said. The pilot landed after he heard a suspicious noise from the engine during the flight from the Amistad Dam on the Texas border to Nueva Rosita, 100 miles

(258 kilometres) to the south. The noise turned out to have been caused by a break in the fan that cools the aircraft's transmission fluid, the statement said.

A press helicopter landed to help and later another Puma helicopter was dispatched to the site, 37 miles (59 kilometres) northwest of Nueva Rosita, to pick up the President and the seven officials travelling with him. (AP)

**Speaking up for Guam:** Guam governor Joseph Ada said Tuesday the small US territory is tired of its "stepchild" relationship with the federal government.

Ada, speaking at a two-day gathering of top officials from US territories in the Pacific and Caribbean, said Guam has been unsuccessful in trying to gain greater independence from US stewardship.

Ada said Commonwealth status would allow the territory to develop its potential, "maximizing what very little resources we have" and giving Guam the freedom to handle its own affairs.

Ada said federal trade restrictions and other laws are shackling Guam's economic development. He cited restrictions involving the US customs agency, the Jones Act Maritime Law, and the fact that one-third of the total land area in Guam is in federal possession. (UPI)

# Duarte at death's door

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador, Sept. 22, (AP) — Former President Jose Napoleón Duarte, who has been battling liver cancer for more than a year, was near death today, his doctor said.

Duarte, 63, spent most yesterday in bed, saying brief goodbyes to friends and colleagues who visited him at his home in this capital's affluent San Benito neighbourhood.

Duarte's wife, Ines, and the couple's six children — four daughters and two sons — were at his side throughout the day.

Dr Jose Luis Saca, Duarte's physician, said late last night that Duarte was having difficulty breathing and was being supplied with oxygen.

Duarte has given up his battle with liver cancer and was refusing medication.

"We are trying to make his death painless," Saca told reporters. "He asked that I not give him more medicine, so that he may die in peace," he added.

"He is very critical. He is in the terminal state. We don't expect an improvement," said Saca. "It is a matter of hours — maybe 24 or 48. But the fatal denouement could also come any minute."

## Israel cannot extradite Klein

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Sept. 22, (Reuter) — Israel said yesterday it could not extradite to Colombia to reserve army colonel alleged to have trained hit squads for Colombian drug gangs.

"The extradition of Yair Klein is legally impossible," Foreign Ministry spokesman Yosef Amichand told reporters.

He said Bogota had not yet asked Israel to hand over Klein, although Colombia's security and intelligence agency said on Tuesday it had issued warrants for his arrest and extradition on charges of criminal conspiracy.

The spokesman said Israeli law barred the extradition of anyone to a country with which Israel had no extradition treaty. It also barred the extradition of Israeli citizens.

Klein told Reuters on Tuesday that he had only trained cattle ranchers to fight off communist guerrillas but was prepared to stand trial in Colombia if indicted.

Israel's attorney-general is weighing charges against Klein and his security company Hod Hahani (spearhead) for the unauthorized export of military know-how.

A Colombian government investigation found five Israelis trained hit squads linked to Colombian cocaine cartels, Interior Minister Orlando Vasquez Velasquez said.

The Colombian security service has said Israeli, British and American mercenaries trained assassins for the drug barons, who recently declared total war on the government.

Delivering the most detailed government statement to date on foreign mercenaries in Colombia, Vasquez Velasquez said the drug gangs contracted mercenaries who had previously served in elite anti-terrorist units.

He told the national Senate on Tuesday night that the investigations showed the mercenaries trained hit squads "at the service of the (drug) mafias and paramilitaries" and the armed groups later committed seven peasant massacres.

Vasquez Velasquez testified during a prolonged six-hour Senate debate called to examine the role of foreign mercenaries in Colombia.

The minister said the five Israelis involved spent time in Puerto Boyaca in central Colombia and on a Magdalena river state dubbed "Fantasy Island."

The island, a retreat with a sprawling lodge and open-air restaurant, was seized by the military at the end of August, a Defence Ministry spokesman said. He added it belonged to reputed Medellin cartel leader Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha.

The topic of foreign mercenaries, which for a month has been a divisive political issue in Israel and has sparked controversy in Britain and the United States, has recently emerged as a major issue within Colombia.

The most controversial aspect is whether the alleged Israeli mercenaries had contact with Colombian military officers.

The issue surfaced after an Israeli army reserve colonel, Yair Klein, who said he trained rural self-defence groups in Colombia a year-and-a-half ago, said he met two senior officers.

The interior minister said the foreign instructors taught at schools where 80 to 90 men were trained at a time in three- to four-month courses. The schools were at five sites in the middle Magdalena river region, about 100 miles (160 kms) northwest of Bogota.

The foreign instructors taught at the schools in December 1987 and May 1988, he said, adding that they sold themselves to the highest bidder.

# Colombia justice minister resigns

## Spate of blasts rock Bogota

BOGOTA, Sept. 22, (AP) — Colombian Justice Minister Monica de Greiff has resigned after three months of defying death threats by drug lords, a presidential source said today.

News of the resignation came as security was tightened in the capital following a dozen bomb blasts in less than 24 hours.

The source said on condition of not being identified that the minister's resignation would be announced later in the day and her letter of resignation would be published. The official announcement has to be made by the president, the source said.

Radio Caracol, a usually reliable private radio chain, reported last night that President Virgilio Barco, who met with Ms De Greiff earlier, had accepted her resignation.

The 32-year-old lawyer drew praise world-wide after she travelled to the United States in August to ask for help protecting hundreds of judges facing death threats by cocaine traffickers.

The traffickers have repeatedly threatened Ms. De Greiff, her 3-year-old son and husband since she took office July 16.

They stepped up the threats when the government began cracking down on the cocaine cartels after Sen. Luis Carlos Galan, the country's leading presidential candidate, was assassinated on Aug. 18.

Six people have served as justice minister in the past three years and nearly all were threatened with death.

One of Ms De Greiff's predecessors was killed by drug lords in 1984 and another was wounded on a Budapest street in 1987 after becoming the ambassador to Hungary.

Radio Caracol said Barco accepted Ms De Greiff's resignation and offered to make her ambassador to Portugal, but that she declined.

The news programme TV Hoy reported: "Arturo Ferrer Carrasco, a 44-year-old economist with the Finance Ministry, would replace Ms. De Greiff."

Colombia's cocaine traffickers have responded to the government's crackdown with bombings and arson, and a new wave of explosions rattled Bogota yesterday.

The blasts damaged nine offices of Colombia's two main political parties and a 10th bomb damaged a bank earlier in the day. Two people were reported injured.

Last night, blasts could be heard throughout Bogota. Police said at least two bombs damaged a clinic, a bank, a police station and a street. Another bomb went off near the military hospital, injuring a young boy, police said.

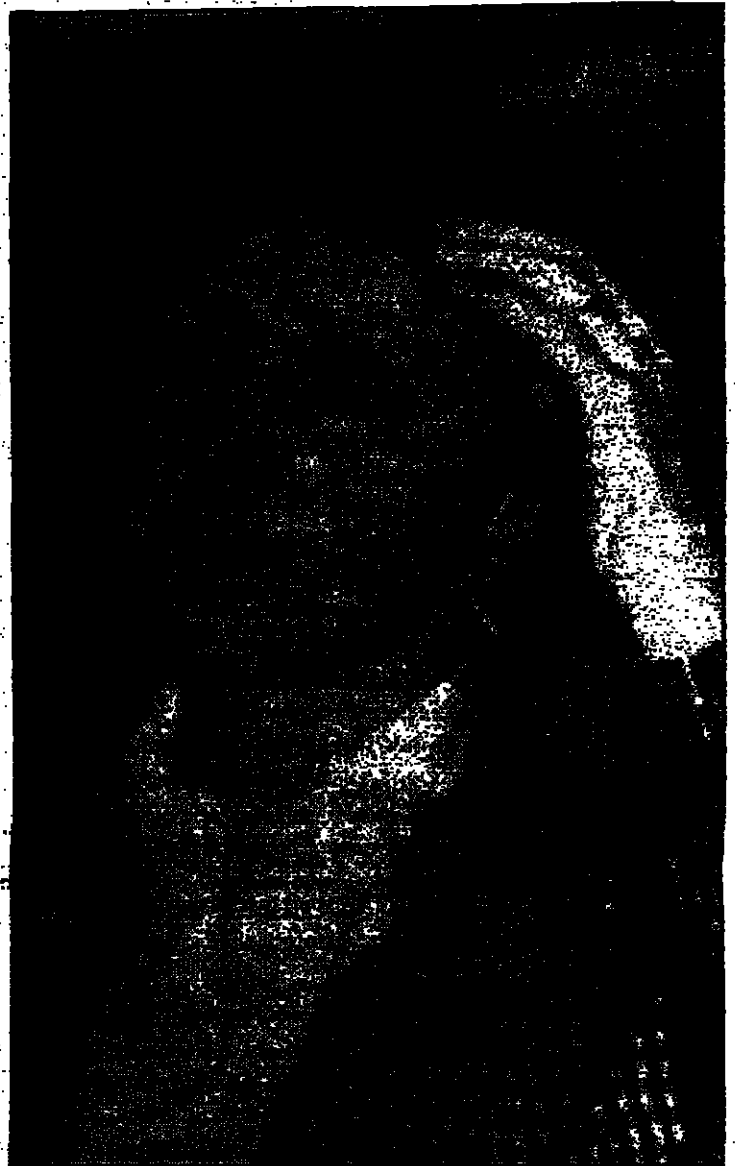
The damage was believed to be in the millions of dollars. Hundreds of army troops, police and private security guarded buildings across the city of 6 million people.

The bombings came as the Colombian Senate debated allegations that government officials and other conspired with drug traffickers.

This week, the lawmakers asked the government to make public a list that allegedly contains the names of government officials, politicians, journalists and officials in the army and police believed to be on the payroll of cartels. Barco said no such lists exist.

Newspapers published the names of 25 lawmakers and politicians recently denied visas to the United States, allegedly because they had drug connections.

Foreign Minister Julio Londoño Paredes said he was asking Washington to find out why the names were leaked.



Monica de Greiff at a press conference. (Reuter wirephoto)

**Cocaine effects:** Heavy usage of cocaine may sharply weaken people's immune systems, leaving daily users more vulnerable to infectious diseases including AIDS, say research scientists at the University of Florida.

"Very high doses of cocaine suppress certain immune system cells by 90 per cent," said Dr Jeffrey Delafuente in the latest issue of the scientific journal "Pharmacotherapy."

"If cocaine can significantly inhibit the functions of these cells, as it has done in our test-tube studies, the implications are frightening," said Delafuente, an associate professor of pharmacology. "It could theoretically wipe out the entire immune system." (Reuter)

**Drugs summit:** The president of the world's three largest cocaine-producing countries — Peru, Colombia and Bolivia — will meet next month to coordinate anti-drug efforts. Peruvian President Alan Garcia has said.

Colombian President Virgilio Barco, Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora and Garcia will meet in Peru in Oct. 14 and 15 to work out joint anti-narcotics strategies. Garcia told reporters yesterday.

The three Andean countries produce nearly all the cocaine consumed in the United States and Europe. (Reuter)

**Cocaine lab destroyed:** Police destroyed a huge laboratory capable of producing more than two tonnes of cocaine a week in Bolivia's eastern jungle region, but the workers there fled, police said.

The laboratory, one of the biggest ever discovered in Bolivia, was found on Wednesday in Beni province, 300 km (300 miles) northeast of La Paz, regional Police Commander Major Carlos Barriga said on Wednesday night.

He said about 30 people who had been working at the jungle complex all escaped, taking the drugs with them before police arrived. (Reuter)

**Plantation destruction:** The Venezuelan armed forces will intensify efforts to destroy cocaine plantations along the Colombian border, national guard commander Manuel Iredaca Romero said yesterday.

He told reporters that new operations will take place on the Venezuelan side of the northwestern border region called Sierra de Perija, where large quantities of cocaine and marijuana are believed to be growing.

# Gabor's star witness says she was also maltreated

BEVERLY HILLS, California, Sept. 22, (UPI) — The star defence witness in Zsa Zsa Gabor's trial on charges she slapped a motorcycle cop because he was physically and verbally abusing her testified the officer put her through a similar ordeal last year.

"I thought he would kill me," said Melanie Jonkers, who was pulled over by officer Paul Kramer last October because her 2-year-old daughter said she refused to sign a citation.

Jonkers said she grabbed her arms and threw me against the back of the car and handcuffed me,"

which is what Gabor testified Kramer did to her on June 14.

At that point, Jonkers said, her daughter started crying and now "every time by daughter sees a police officer or hears a siren, she says, 'is that mean man going to take mommy away?'"

Jonkers said she flew to California at her own expense "to try to set the record straight about how abusive this man is."

Jonkers, the sister-in-law of Orion Pictures executive Michael Medavoy, said she refused to sign the citation because she was in the process of moving to Virginia and Kramer told her she

would have to stay in California to appear in court.

Jonkers sobbed throughout her testimony, describing the 6-foot-4 (1.93-m) Kramer as "very abusive, arrogant and smug."

Gabor's lawyer, William Grayson, had been trumpeting Jonkers as his star witness. He said her testimony supports Gabor's assertion that Kramer roughed her up after stopping her for a routine traffic violation.

Gabor, who lists her age as 66, maintains she slapped Kramer because he swore at her and manhandled her after she mistakenly drove off

in her \$215,000 Rolls-Royce convertible while he was on his radio checking her expired driver's licence and registration.

Gabor, who faces up to 18 months in jail and \$3,400 in fines if convicted, contends she was only following Kramer's instructions when he told her to "I—off."

Another witness, Hollywood talent agent Ronald Glazer, testified that he also was verbally abused by Kramer in December 1987 after he tried to drive through a police barricade, but later made an erroneous identification of

Kramer.



100150

## INTERNATIONAL

ARAB TIMES, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1989

# Leftists may accept Lanka truce offer

### Indian-Tamil ceasefire holds

COLOMBO, Sept. 22, (Reuters): Efforts were stepped up today to persuade leftist Sinhalese rebels blamed for 900 killings in southern Sri Lanka in the past month to accept a three-day government ceasefire from next week.

Political sources close to the People's Liberation Front (JVP) said the officials were likely to honour the ceasefire from 6 am (0030 GMT) next Wednesday a week after a similar truce in the north between Indian troops and Tamil separatists.

They said they were pressing for a formal statement from the JVP to undercut vigilante death squads who might seek to violate the truce and blame it on rebels.

"Messages have been going back and forth and all the signs at the moment look hopeful," a source said. But police said there were no signs that violence was on the decline, with the death toll averaging more than 30 a day in the last few weeks.

## 'Herhsh lied'

### Desai too ill to attend

CHICAGO, Sept. 22, (UPI): Pulitzer prize-winning author Seymour Hersh had ties to the KGB and had been in the Nixon White House, it was alleged today in testimony read to a federal jury Wednesday.



Desai claim

Desai's allegations, read from testimony he gave in depositions to Hersh's attorneys in 1983, came in the third day of the investigative journalist's civil libel trial.

Desai sued Hersh in 1983 for writing in his book, "The Prize of Power: Henry Kissinger in the Nixon White House," that Desai sold state secrets to the Central Intelligence Agency for an annual fee of \$20,000.

Testimony by the 93-year-old Desai, who is reported to be too ill to attend the trial, was read by Hersh's attorney, Bernard Nussbaum. Nussbaum focused on testimony that highlighted Desai's long-standing political feud between Desai and Indira Gandhi, another Indian leader.

Desai, prime minister from 1977 to 1979, testified Hersh obtained his information from Indira, prime minister from 1966 to 1977, and from 1980 until her assassination in 1984, or from sources close to her.

Asked how he arrived at that conclusion, Desai said "from my knowledge of the (Indian) government and my view of them." Asked if Indira fed Hersh the information, he replied "Yes, yes, how can I contradict her?"

Desai said Indira was not involved in the CIA link, which he said was not "a big deal."

"It was then that I knew," Desai said, "otherwise, she would have contradicted me."

Although Desai would not name his sources for fear he would not get subsequent intelligence reports, he said Hersh had "helpers" within the Indian government. He went on to say Hersh's accusations were not mistakenly aimed at Desai.

"No, it has been deliberately done," he said. "Hersh is a pro-Soviet man."

Hersh's book charges Desai provided the CIA with sensitive information in 1971 about India's plans to invade Pakistan and Indian relations with the Soviet Union.

Hersh has maintained he based his writing on lengthy interviews with highly-placed sources in the CIA and the White House. Hersh has declined to name his sources.

Defense attorney Cyrus Kappil said he will try to bring Kissinger, who was in Chicago Wednesday, to court to testify in the case.

Kappil said Kissinger would be subpoenaed if efforts to reach his attorney were unsuccessful.

US district judge Charles Norgie Wednesday refused to allow several portions of taped testimony by Kissinger.

If Kissinger is not in court, Kappil said he would call Hersh to the witness stand.

# Kashmir: paradise threatened

SRINAGAR, India, Sept. 22, (Reuters): India's Mughal kings called it paradise and colonial Britons flocked there to beat the heat of the plains, but today Kashmir is under threat.

At first glance, the Kashmir valley with its emerald paddy fields, lines of poplar and willow trees, orchards and lakes looks lush and prosperous.

Experts say Srinagar's Dal Lake, a major attraction for foreign tourists, is filling up with silt trapped in its sewage-polluted waters by choking weeds.

A violent campaign by militants to wrest Jammu and Kashmir from Indian control slashed tourist arrivals by 40 per cent this year, according to state Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah.

"Our economy is basically tourist-based,"

he said. "We don't have any other economy and if you don't have peace here who the hell is going to come?"

High-spending foreigners are still braving the bombs and shootings to stay on Dal Lake's many houseboats or go trekking in the Himalayas. But many Indian visitors have been scared away, officials say.

The high mountain region of Ladakh should also be full of tourists, but violent protests by local Buddhists against Kashmiri economic domination have emptied hotels.

Officials in Jammu and Kashmir's summer capital Srinagar say virtually no buses or jeep taxis have made the 270 km (170 mile) run to the Ladakh capital Leh in the past month because of fear of attacks.

"Because of all the troubles I do not think that the business will ever be the same again."

Tourists want security," said Mohammad Karroo who runs three of the 1,000 wood-carved houseboats that crowd parts of Srinagar's waterways.

At the other end of the scale, Gulam Kadir's daily income from paddling people around the lake in his yellow-canopied Shikara water taxi has more than halved.

"Last year it was full at this time," said 25-year-old Kadir. "This year I make one or two trips a day. Last year I made four or five trips. This year I make about 80 rupees (US\$1.5) a day. Last year I made 200 to 300 (US\$12-18)."

Kashmir University professor Prem Nath Kachroo is pessimistic about the long-term prospects for Kashmir's lakes and believes Dal and nearby Nagin lake are dying.

"Even the local people now would not dare to take drinking water from the lake," the

professor of botany said. "They don't want stomach trouble."

According to Kachroo the biggest problem is the raw sewage dumped straight into the shallow lakes and Jhelum river from the houseboats and city nearby.

Coupled with fertilisers and pesticides which run off from farmland, sewage has caused massive weed growth that chokes the waters and traps the silt washed down from the mountains which ring Srinagar.

"Tourists still come to the lake. It is not so obvious that they run away from it, but biologically speaking it is definitely deteriorating," Kachroo said. "It will be filled up within 30 years."

Numerous studies have recommended ways to halt the decline but all need one thing — huge amounts of money.

## Kashmir resolution angers Indians

NEW DELHI, Sept. 22, (Kans): The Indian government has reacted strongly to Pakistan's resolution on Kashmir and Sikkim and called it an interference in India's internal affairs.

Pakistan senate had passed a resolution on Monday calling for a plebiscite in Kashmir and withdrawal of Indian troops from Sikkim.

A spokesperson of the Indian External Affairs Ministry said here last night that the resolution was not in keeping with the letter and spirit of the Simla Agreement and went against the attempts to normalise relations between the two countries.

The two countries have fought three wars and have had several skirmishes in the icy lands of Sikkim.

The resolution drafted by the country's Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, also made a mention about the human rights in Kashmir. The spokesperson said no country had any locus standi to speak on these matters and India regards it as an interference in its internal affairs.

This is the first time that New Delhi has issued such a sharp statement against Islamabad since Benazir Bhutto came to power.

The spokesperson said that such resolutions not only jeopardised the normalisation process but also adversely affect peace and stability in South Asia.

Sources in the Indian External Affairs Ministry today said the Indian government was disturbed by the reference to the Indian minorities. The two countries have since 1983 carefully avoided mention about minorities in each other's country.

The sources said that although Pakistan government had raised the issue at various fora, the recent being by Nawaz Sharif at the Non-Aligned Summit in Belgrade, but this time the resolution went far beyond to refer to a minority community in India.

However, political observers here believe that the resolution was yet another move by the Pakistan opposition to embarrass Benazir's government trying to normalise relations with India.

Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has accepted an official invitation to visit Bangladesh but for the present no date had been fixed for the visit.

"A date will be announced at an appropriate time," said a Foreign Ministry spokesman at a briefing today.

## 79-year-old Nobel laureate mentally very strong Teresa sleeps well, looks bright

CALCUTTA, Sept. 22, (Reuters): Nobel peace prize winner Mother Teresa spent a quiet night and was improving today in her battle against heart problems, her doctors said.

"She had no chest pain last night. She slept well and is looking bright this morning. Her appetite is also improved," a medical bulletin said.

The Roman Catholic nun, 79, was rushed to hospital more than two weeks ago suffering from chest pains and a high temperature caused by a slightly blocked artery and fatigue.

Doctors, however, said Mother Teresa, who came to work among the dying and destitute of Calcutta 40 years ago, would remain under intensive care for at least two weeks.

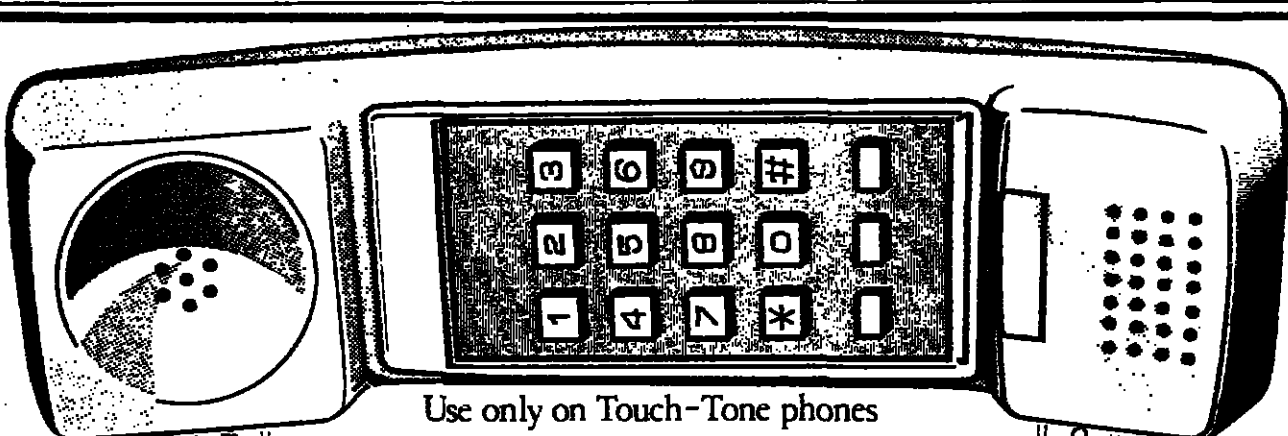
Mother Teresa, born in Yugoslavia of Albanian parents, won the Nobel prize in 1979 for her work. Her Missionaries of Charity runs more than 400 homes around the world for the needy.

"The overall picture is a shade brighter," said a statement issued by the Woodlands nursing home.

But Dr A.K. Bardhan, one of the physicians treating Teresa, said she was still not out of danger.

"We cannot be certain about her health condition at this moment," Bardhan said. "She is still not out of danger, she is mentally very strong, but not physically."

Bardhan said Mother Teresa's temperature is normal and she has had no chest pains since Monday night. Although her general condition is improving, Mother Teresa will remain hospitalised for at least two more weeks, he said.



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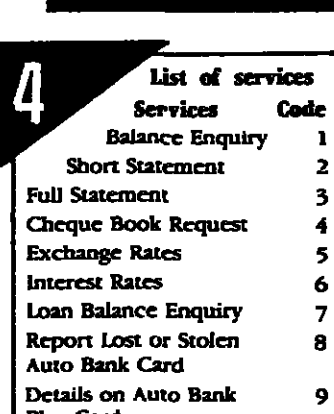
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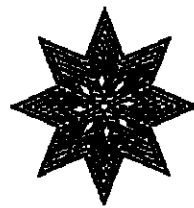
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## INTERNATIONAL

PPP's  
tussle  
with IDA  
growing

ISLAMABAD, Sept. 22, (Kuna): District and session judge, Lahore, yesterday granted bail to two senior officials of the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) arrested by the Punjab provincial police on Sept. 18 on a charge of attempted murder.

The bail was allowed on the production of two surety bonds of rupees ten thousand each.

Assistant director Nasim Raza and inspector Ifkhar Shah of the FIA were arrested by the Punjab police after they raided a Pepsi Cola factory and reportedly intercepted a truck load of Pepsi bottles for which requisite excise duty had not been paid. The truck driver registered a case of attempted murder against the two officials.

Their arrest led to heightening of state of confrontation between the Pakistan People's Party government in Islamabad and Islamic Democratic Alliance government in Lahore.

The federal government through a statement from Interior Ministry yesterday described the arrest as illegal and unlawful saying that the two federal investigators were performing their normal duty which at that time comprised the checking of tax evasion by the Pepsi management.

In the opinion of the Interior Ministry in Islamabad the IDA government in the Punjab was creating a rebellion type situation vis-a-vis the federal authority which has the upper hand in a federal system. The provincial police has no right to arrest members of the federal police, the Interior Ministry contended.

When Punjab Chief Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif was asked this question at a news conference in Islamabad he said the two FIA officials were involved in "illegal activities," and as such provincial action against them was just and legal.

The Punjab chief minister, who is also the president of the IDA, refuted the statement of the federal Interior Ministry that Punjab government was in a state of rebellion against the federal authority and was subverting the constitution. "I vehemently deny this charge," he remarked.

Any citizen of Pakistan can demand his legitimate rights, Nawaz Sharif said, adding that if this tantamounted to rebellion against the federal authority then all the critics of the federal government were traitors.

Nawaz Sharif criticised the transfer of federal government officials what he called on a whole-sale basis from Punjab to Islamabad.

According to him as many as seventy federal officers had been unduly transferred from Punjab to Islamabad.

About the murder case registered against federal Labour Minister Malik Mukhtar Ahmed Awan in Multan, Nawaz Sharif said the federal government must present him before the court to prove his innocence.

He accused the PPP government of being incapable of controlling the law and order situation in Sindh province, saying that the situation in Sindh was worsening.

## Minor reshuffle

Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto named a new minister of state for information in a minor reshuffle in the federal cabinet.

According to an official announcement, Malik Saeed Ahmed Awan, a member of the National Assembly from Faisalabad (Punjab province) has been appointed minister of state for information in place of Javed Jabbar, who will now be Minister of State for Science and Technology.

## Meeting

A prominent politician of the Punjab belonging to the National Peoples Party held a meeting with Benazir Bhutto and discussed the possibilities of his rejoining the Pakistan People's Party.

Ghulam Mustafa Khar, who fell out from the PPP on his return from 9-year exile, held discussions with Benazir over a luncheon meeting.

## Bangladesh clamps down on fake medicinal drugs

DHAKA, Sept. 22, (Reuters): Bangladesh has cracked down on companies making fake or sub-standard medicinal drugs after doctors complained many patients may have died as a result of the problem.

Government drug control agents said yesterday they had discovered over 125 brands of medicine produced by 99 Bangladeshi companies which were not up to the required standard. Some of the so-called drugs were simply fake.

"Many people have died or suffered incurable

side-effects by using spurious drugs," said Dilip Kumar Saha, a doctor at a Dhaka private clinic.

Bangladesh banned most foreign manufactured medicines in 1983 and hundreds of domestic drug-making companies have sprung up since.

"We are in a state of helplessness and the overall health of the nation now seems at stake," said one doctor at a government hospital. "What do I prescribe for them?" he

added, pointing to dozens of patients crowding a ward.

He said the products of hundreds of other companies needed testing, but officials said most of the companies making bad drugs were small manufacturers who together account for only 15 per cent of the drugs sold in Bangladesh.

"But what worries most is that spurious brands include mass-selling anti-fever tablets and syrups, pain-killers and antacids," one said.

## Ineptness, corruption clog Filipino courts

MANILA, Philippines, Sept. 22, (Agencies): President Corazon Aquino said yesterday ineptness and corruption in the Philippine justice system have clogged the courts and forced frustrated victims of injustice to seek remedies outside the law.

Aquino also said Justice Department

officials, judges and prosecutors would be fired if efforts to improve the judiciary fail to achieve "substantial results" in the next few weeks.

The President made the statements during the 44th anniversary celebration of the Philippine Lawyers Association.

"To my fellow government workers,

I say unless the public sees results soon it will be goodbye for you," said Aquino. She added that several judges and prosecutors have either been fired or suspended since she gave her order last month for "stronger measures" against inept officials.

But she said private lawyers also are

to blame for delays. Aquino said lawyers usually ask for postponements at the "slightest excuse," like stomach upset, traffic or absence of clients and witnesses.

"Many a time, too, I have nudged the judiciary for its inability to move the mountains of cases that pile up in the

country's (courts) only to be told that the lawyers contribute in large part to the enormous backlog," she added.

Aquino said she, too, is a victim of delays. She was referring to the Aug. 21, 1983 murder of her husband, former Sen. Benigno Aquino Jr., and a 1987 libel case she filed against a columnist

who said she "hid under the bed" during a bloody coup attempt that left 53 people dead and more than 300 others wounded.

Supreme Court records show a backlog of more than 300,000 before the country's nearly 2,000 courts.



Exiled Chinese student leader Wuer Kaifu (left) attends the inaugural conference of the Front for Democratic China. (Reuters wirephoto)

Rival party  
in the offing

Chinese dissidents meet

PARIS, Sept. 22, (Agencies): Refugees from the army crackdown on the pro-democracy movement in China, joined by European politicians and artists, met today to form a group that they say could be the foundation for a Chinese opposition party.

About 500 people attending the inaugural meeting of the Federation for Democracy in China observed a moment of silence under the dome of an amphitheatre at the Sorbonne University in memory of those who died in the assault June 3-4 in Beijing.

"No one will think of freedom or democracy or remember 1989 without recalling the courage and strength shown by those people on Tiananmen Square," said Paddy Ashdown, representing Britain's Liberal Democratic Party. "What you have done has been an inspiration to us. What you will do is a hope for the future."

Organisers originally had expected about 200 people to attend the three-day session.

Among those in the crowd were photographer Henri Cartier-Bresson and actor Yves Montand. On his way into the meeting, Montand told reporters that he was there to support the continuing battle for human rights.

The meeting was called to write rules for the new federation, which plans to set up its main office in Paris with branches in North America and Asia.

Organisers say the federation could serve as the basis for an effective opposition party to communist rule in China, if and when conditions permit the exiles to return.

The group of prominent Chinese exiles also plans to push for international economic sanctions against China, hoping that deteriorating economic conditions will speed political changes at home.

Wan Runan, one of China's most influential independent business executives before the army's assault on pro-democracy demonstrators, predicted the exiles would return within the decade.

The group hopes to mobilise more than 35 million Chinese in Taiwan, Hong Kong, the United States and elsewhere to keep pressure on authorities in Beijing to make economic and political reforms.

Japan today lifted restrictions on travel of its nationals to Beijing as of next Monday, Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama said today.

He told reporters that the travel ban, imposed following the bloody ending to pro-democracy students demonstrations in the Chinese capital early last June, was lifted after stabilisation of the situation in Beijing despite continuation of martial law.

Factory leaks toxic  
gas, hundreds injured

CALCUTTA, India, Sept. 22, (UPI): Toxic gas Wednesday spewed out of an engineering factory in a crowded locality of the eastern port city of Calcutta and left more than 100 residents of a neighbouring shanty colony injured, police said.

They said hundreds of impoverished slum residents, gasping for want of fresh air rushed out of their homes and began fleeing away from the congested Malpanchghara area in the outskirts of West Bengal capital city of Calcutta, where the engineering firm is located.

The ammonia gas used for welding and cutting jobs, leaked out from a circular cylinder when workers in the overnight shift were cutting a steel sheet that left more than 100 people injured,

police said. Fire fighters and police evacuated residents from the shanty colony and transported the seriously injured people to Howrah General Hospital.

Police said five masked fire fighters lifted the leaking cylinder and carried it to a nearby water tank, where it was immersed and rendered harmless.

All the injured except one woman, whose condition was listed as serious, were discharged after a first aid treatment, doctors said.

They said none of the discharged people suffered permanent injuries.

Police arrested the factory owner for causing injuries to people by negligence and sealed the factory.

Cambodia  
makes a  
stand in  
Pailin

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia, Sept. 22, (AP): Thousands of Cambodian troops have been deployed to defend a strategic town against guerrilla attacks, a top official said today in describing what could become the first major test for his forces after Vietnam's pledged troop pullout.

Up to 450 Khmer Rouge guerrillas aiming to carve out a "liberated zone" in western Cambodia have intensified mortar shelling of the Pailin area, sometimes firing 2,000 rounds a day, said Deputy Defence Minister Gen. Ke Kim Yan.

"We are mobilising all our men so we will not lose Pailin," he said. "If when the Vietnamese withdraw we still stay in Pailin, that means the Khmer Rouge cannot do anything to Cambodia."

The trouble centres on a 124-mile (200-kilometre) strip of territory bordering Thailand, the official said.

Khmer Rouge radio, in reports monitored in Bangkok over the past few days, claimed that the guerrillas have taken several former Vietnamese positions around Pailin and that Cambodian Army units left to defend the area were growing steadily weaker.

The clandestine voice of Democratic Kampuchea claimed on Sept. 19, that one Phnom Penh garrison commander was so terrified by "the attack and destruction of our national Army" that he fled to the capital.

According to the radio report, the commander refused orders to return to the battlefield, saying that he would rather go to jail than die in Pailin.

Ke Kim Yan, Cambodia's deputy defence minister, spoke with reporters a day after Vietnam started what it called the pullout of its last 26,000 troops with a festive farewell ceremony in northwestern Siem Reap province.

Today, thousands more troops went on the road after a similar ceremony in Battambang, a neighbouring province that includes Pailin.

The pullout "reflects the growth of our armed forces so that we are now able to guarantee our national defence by ourselves," said Ung Samy, a provincial leader.

The troops are to cross into southern Vietnam next Tuesday by air, land, sea and river, supposedly pending Vietnam's involvement in a war that cost it the lives of more than 25,000 soldiers, international isolation and economic stagnation.

The troop movement has been called by the three guerrilla groups trying to topple the government Vietnam installed in Phnom Penh. But the guerrillas have launched new attacks in areas bordering Thailand to take advantage of the Vietnamese troop movements, said many officials.

Many Western analysts say the estimated 50,000-strong Cambodian government Army is poorly trained and led, and could have problems fighting the guerrillas alone. The brutal Khmer Rouge, the largest of the three guerrilla groups, has decades of battle experience.

Ke Kim Yan said the Khmer Rouge in July began attacking the Pailin area from two bases in Thailand's border province of Trat, aided by reinforcement sent south from their Phnom Mal mountain strongholds.

Cambodian guerrilla leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk has rejected a recent Thai ceasefire proposal for his country and flatly refused to enter bilateral talks with the Phnom Penh government.

Thailand will urge the United States, the Soviet Union and China to pressure the four Cambodian factions to end fighting in Cambodia during the UN General Assembly meeting next week, a Thai Foreign Ministry spokesman said today.

Quayle protesters clash with police  
Manila alerts military

MANILA, Sept. 22, (Agencies): Police clashed today with about 1,000 demonstrators protesting next week's visit of US Vice-President Dan Quayle, and officials said at least six people were arrested.

Officials also said military units in the capital had been placed on alert following a series of bombings that killed at least two people and injured 14.

President Corazon Aquino said there was no evidence of a new coup attempt but that the bombings could be "intended to destabilize the government."

Witnesses said today's clashes occurred as members of various left wing organisations tried to march to the US embassy to demand that Quayle's visit be cancelled. He is to arrive on Tuesday.

Marchers were blocked by about 30

policemen who beat the protesters with truncheons and began firing tear-gas, witnesses said. Protesters then hurled small homemade explosives at the police, injuring several officers and at least three news photographers.

Police said the six arrested included a Japanese student, Taizo Hisano, 27, of Kyoto University.

During the march, protesters unfurled banners saying "Quayle, you're not welcome here" and "dismantle the US bases." Protesters have promised bigger demonstrations during Quayle's three-day visit.

Several Manila newspapers reported the government was concerned about a possible new attempt to topple Aquino before she leaves for the United States in November. She pledged to go ahead with her visit to

Canada and the United States despite the bombings and military alert.

Two people were killed Saturday when assailants hurled a grenade in a crowded market area in downtown Manila. On Monday, 14 people were injured in a grenade blast at another market. A third grenade exploded on Monday in suburban Pasig, but there were no injuries.

A Filipino congressman was charged today with illegal weapons possession after officials ruled there was evidence he tried to smuggle more than 300 guns from California.

Senator Aquilino Pimentel, a member of her ruling coalition who had previously warned about the dangers of an Army takeover, said on Tuesday the US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) could be behind it.



Quayle listens to opening speech by Kaifu while Thatcher applauds. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Communism has failed

Conservatives pledge to prevent Marxism

TOKYO, Sept. 22, (UPI): US Vice-President Dan Quayle and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher opened an international conference of conservative political leaders today who proclaimed the "total failure" of world communism and pledged their determination to prevent its comeback.

At a news conference, Quayle called on China to restore its policies of reform, reconfirmed US support for Poland and urged Cambodia to embrace a democratic government.

Administration officials, meanwhile, said they were keeping a close watch on violent anti-American protests in the Philippines, the next stop on Quayle's Pacific rim tour, but added there were no plans to cancel the visit.

"Democracy is on the move... while communism and socialism are in retreat," said Thatcher at the opening session of a two-day meeting of the International Democratic Union, an organisation of conservative political parties from 27 nations.

"Our democratic system has shown itself infinitely superior to

communism and socialism," Thatcher said.

Quayle agreed but warned against complacency.

"It is too easy to ignore the fact, learned through bitter experience, that freedom has enemies," the vice-president said on the first full day of his six-day visit to Japan.

"Though there are many hopeful signs around us today, the threats remain," he said.

"We are thoroughly justified in feeling quiet satisfaction with the way political events are moving," Thatcher said.

But Thatcher warned, "We should not lull ourselves into a false sense of security that history is over and we have won."

Quayle called for Western nations to give aid to the emerging democratic movements in eastern Europe.

"We need to hold out the promise of a peaceful transition to a democratic future for central and eastern Europe," he said. "And we need to back up that promise with practical assistance."

Japan's Prime Minister

Toshiki Kaifu pointed to the superiority of Western economies over the communist system.

Kaifu, who is facing the problem of a drastic increase in refugees landing in Japan from China and Vietnam, said the refugees are a symbol of the failure of communism.

Kaare Willoch, former prime minister of Norway and the outgoing chairman of the union, proclaimed "the total failure of communism" in his opening remarks.

"We have witnessed the moral collapse and economic failure of communism," he said.

At least 14 people were injured today when 300 leftist students protesting Quayle's upcoming visit and the presence of American military bases hurled stones and homemade bombs at riot policemen during a rally outside the US embassy in Manila.

"We are aware there has been a problem and there has been communication back and forth" but there is "no consideration to dropping that leg of the trip," the official said.

Beijing jails  
living Buddha

BEIJING, Sept. 22, (Reuters): China said yesterday it had sentenced a "living Buddha" and a lama from one of Tibet's largest monasteries to prison terms for their part in separatist unrest in Lhasa.

The official New China News Agency said Gyulo Zhabaibaring, 60, had been sentenced to 10 years in jail for "colluding with reactionaries abroad," apparently a reference to supporters of the Dalai Lama, Tibet's exiled spiritual leader.

They plotted "to try to overthrow the people's government and the socialist system" in 1987, it said but gave no further details of the offences.

It said Gyulo was a living Buddha from Gandain monastery near Lhasa and had spent 20 years in prison before taking part in Tibet's abortive 1959 uprising against Chinese rule.

"Living Buddhas" are regarded as reincarnations of a Buddhist saint.

Burnt to death  
27 teenage girls

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept. 22, (UPI): Twenty-seven teenage girls burned to death as they slept early today when a fire swept through the hostel of a private religious school in Malaysia's northwest town of Alor Setar.

Shahar Hashim, who lives near the Islamic institution, said he called the Fire Department when he spotted flames streaming out of the windows.

The dead students, all between the ages of 13 and 16, boarded at the Madrasah private school and came from the northwest states of Perak and Kedah, officials said.

Police said the last body was recovered at 11:30 am. One person was seriously injured. Grieving relatives were taken

to the local district hospital where the bodies were taken for post mortem examinations.

Witnesses who examined the devastation said the students who burned to death in block E were housed in very cramped conditions.

They said the 27 dead and another 60 who escaped had been sleeping in bunk beds in an upstairs 20-by-50 foot (16-by-7-metre) dormitory that had but a single stairway leading to the ground floor.

Dr Yusof Noor, a government minister, said he was shocked by the deaths and urged all school administrators throughout the country to place greater emphasis on building safety.

He says relations between the two countries are still good, if not as friendly as before.

"We've got many shared democratic values, free speech and common attitudes on a lot of international issues. I'm very fond of the US. I love its diversity and its pluralism and its commitment to free speech. I always quote to Americans when they talk about our nuclear policy, the words of (US founding father) Patrick Henry: 'Give me liberty or give me death.'"

"I think it is quite important for Americans to understand our democratic imperatives in our part of the world have to be respected too. We have free speech, we have democracy. We are entitled to make our choices."

Palmer will deliver a major speech to the UN general assembly on the dangers of drifting fishing in the Pacific.

Palmer said he would be speaking on behalf of the small island states of the southwest Pacific that were threatened by "this abhorrent practice."



## Bodies scattered on desert sands

AGADEZ, Niger, Sept. 22. (Reuters) Bodies and wreckage from a French DC-10 lay scattered over the shifting sands of the Sahara today, four days after the plane exploded at high altitude.

As French Army helicopters began ferrying the remains of the 170 victims to N'Djamena, in neighbouring Chad, the plane's two flight recorders were found in wreckage over a 100-square-km (40 square miles) of desert.

First photographs from the scene showed the nose section of the airliner virtually intact, strikingly similar to the cockpit of a Pan Am jumbo jet blown out of the sky by a bomb last December over Lockerbie, Scotland.

Suspicion is growing that the Union des Transports Aeriens (UTA) plane was victim of a similar bomb to the sophisticated altitude-detonated device which destroyed the Pan Am plane, killing a total of 270 people.

UTA has said the plane may have been blown apart by a bomb because the DC-10's pilot would at least have had time to report a major technical failure. There was no distress signal from the plane before it exploded.

The flight recorders will probably be flown to Paris where investigators will seek clues to the crash from flight deck voice recordings and technical readouts.

UTA board chairman Rene Laporte said: "We, the experts in general, think an accident was rather improbable."

The theory that a bomb destroyed the plane was reinforced by a French magazine report saying France believed pro-Iranian Shiite extremists, crippled by arrests in Europe, may have regrouped in Africa and could have planted the explosives on board.

A caller saying he was speaking for the Iranian-backed Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the crash in a call on Wednesday to a French television station.

Desert winds blanketed much of the debris and bodies which were scattered over a large area of the plane's blackened fuselage could still be identified.

The plane fell out of the sky less than an hour after a stopover in N'Djamena on a flight from Brazzaville to Paris. Most of the victims were African, and there were also French, Swiss, American and British nationals on board.

In Niger, salvage efforts are based around the oasis settlement Termit, about 100 km (60 miles) south of the main wreckage.

French military sources in N'Djamena said 61 bodies had been recovered but none identified.

Five US investigators, three from the government and one each from plane manufacturer McDonnell-Douglas and engine maker General Electric, arrived in Chad yesterday and flew to the crash site today, a source said.

The Americans were expected to co-ordinate their work with French experts already at the site, the source said.

Philippe Guibal, UTA's representative in Brazzaville, said nine passengers who disembarked in N'Djamena have been interrogated and are not suspected of having planted a bomb.

He said the nine had registered in normal fashion.

France today denied it had received reports warning of terrorist attack on French interests in the days before the mid-air explosion of a French DC-10.

French officials say they have ruled out an accidental cause for the explosion, but that a bomb was the most likely explanation.

But a spokesman for President Mitterrand, speaking on condition of anonymity in keeping with government practice, said a thorough check had shown "none of our services, none of our ministers, received either threats or intelligence about preparations for anti-French attacks."

France believes an extremist network crippled by arrests in Europe may have regrouped in Africa and could have carried out the suspected bombing of a French airliner, according to a magazine report.

# US Air Boeing aborts takeoff, slides into river

## 2 die: pilot 'acted irrationally'

NEW YORK, Sept. 22. (AP) Police are investigating reports that a US Air pilot was "acting irrationally" before he aborted a takeoff and his jetliner slid into a river, killing two passengers, a newspaper reported today.

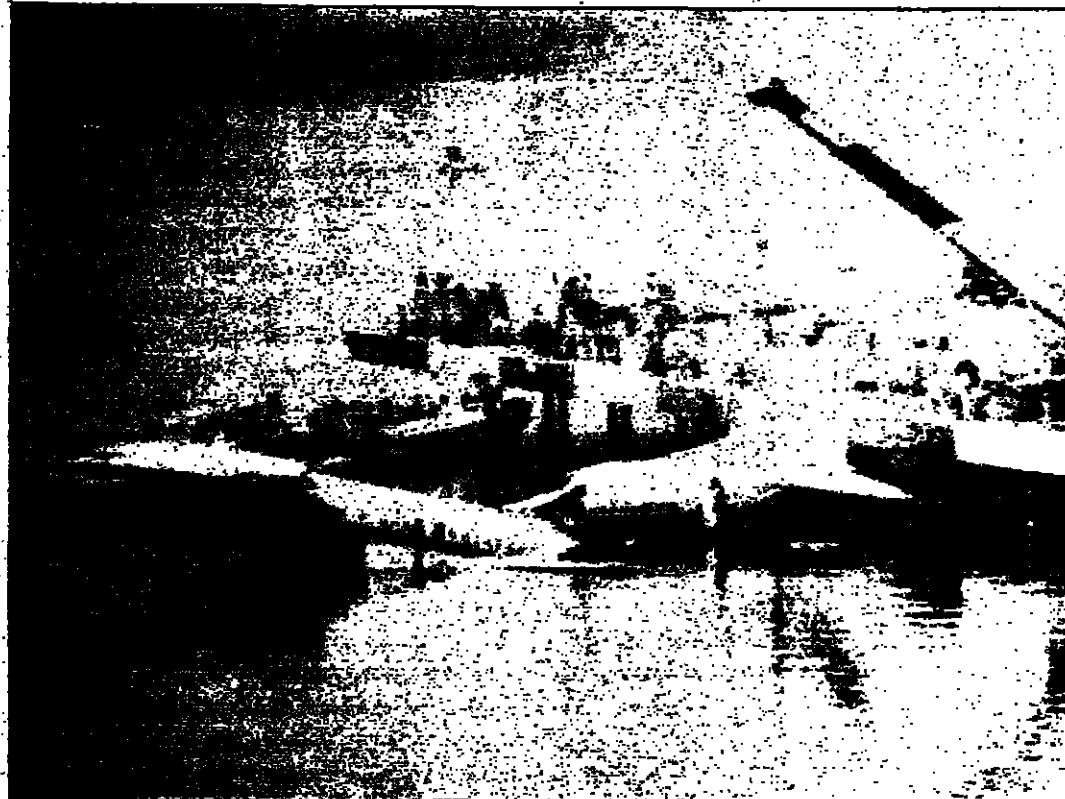
The New York Times reported in today's editions that law enforcement officials were checking reports that the co-pilot told airport police shortly after the crash that the pilot had been "mumbling" and "acting irrationally" just before takeoff.

But John Hughes, a spokesman for the port authority which manages the city's airports, said the agency's police had no interviews with

the crew after the crash. Commenting on the Times report, Hughes said, "I have heard nothing about that."

The pilot told the control tower he was aborting the takeoff at LaGuardia airport moments before the US Air jetliner slid into the east river, which runs through the heart of New York City, officials said yesterday.

"There was no indication why he was aborting," said federal aviation administration spokesman Fred Farrar. "Until we know why the guy aborted the takeoff, we have no way of knowing the cause of the accident."



The US Air Boeing sits in the East river after it skidded off the runway. (Reuters wirephoto)



Two crash survivors huddle in the lounge. (Reuters wirephoto)



A stewardess who survived the crash drinks coffee in a lounge at the La Guardia airport.

Survivors clung to the wings of the broken aircraft or grasped floating timbers after the Boeing 737-400 slid into the river at 11:29 pm Wednesday (0329 GMT Thursday). Two men were killed, but 99 people including crew members survived.

The jet's flight data and cockpit voice recorders were analysed yesterday by the national transportation safety board, but provided no immediate clues on the cause of the crash, board chairman James Kolstad said.

"There were no noises or voices that suggested there was any problem with the takeoff or why the takeoff was aborted," Kolstad said at an evening news conference.

The flight data box recording indicated that the plane swerved slightly instead of moving straight down the runway and showed some "deviations" in rudder movement, Kolstad said, but investigators did not immediately understand what effect that might have had on the takeoff.

The Times, quoting unidentified airline industry officials, said the pilot and co-pilot had little experience with 737s. The pilot had flown the planes for only two months and the co-pilot was said to have been in a 737 cockpit crew for the first time, the newspaper said.

Rachel Halterman, a spokesman for the safety board, said the investigating agency had "no direct knowledge" of the Times report. She said until the pilots are interviewed, "anything else is hearsay."

The crew has not been interviewed yet by authorities and Kolstad had no information about their experience or identities.

He said the NTSB had asked for drug and alcohol tests for the crew and plans to interview the pilot and co-pilot. They have the right to decline to speak with investigators but can be subpoenaed if they refuse, said Ms Halterman.

Flight 5050, bound for Charlotte, North Carolina, was accelerating down the runway in a light rain when the control tower acknowledged the pilot's request to abort and cleared him to turn onto the last taxiway before the end of the runway.

Farrar said a pilot would not be required to get permission to abort takeoff.

"The pilot seemed to be accelerating but didn't have enough power to get the plane up," said passenger Larry Martin. "He put on the brakes. The plane took a dip and the next thing I knew all hell broke loose."

## Crash victims increase damages

MONTREAL, Sept. 22. (Reuters) Victims of airline crashes should be awarded compensatory damages of up to \$250,000 — much more than they are currently granted — the Dutch government told a world aviation meeting yesterday.

The world-wide scheme for compensation for victims of aircraft accidents is in urgent need of updating, Dutch Transport Minister Neelke Smit-Kroes said in a statement.

His government presented a study to the meeting of the International Civil Aviation Organisation, a UN-sponsored body with 161 members states, calling on countries to work urgently on a new plan.

The report, prepared by the International Foundation of Airline Passengers Associations for the Dutch government, argues that crash victims should be awarded up to \$250,000.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Quake strikes China:** A strong earthquake measuring 6.6 on the Richter scale collapsed buildings and opened crevices in roadways on Friday in central China's Sichuan province, injuring at least 20 people, the Chinese news agency reported.

The shock was felt in 12 counties and two cities in the central part of the province, with the hardest-hit area around the town of Xiaojin, about 100 miles (160 km) west of the provincial capital, Chengdu, the official Xinhua news agency said.

At least 20 people were injured after the quake struck at 10:25 am local time.

Near Xiaojin, "many houses collapsed, cracks appeared on highways and a phosphorus mine was damaged," Xinhua reported. (UPI)

**Landslide kills 38:** Landslides triggered by heavy rain in the east Nepa district of Taplejung have killed 38 people, injured many others and damaged crops since Monday, the Nepal news agency reported on Friday.

Quoting officials in east Nepal, the agency said 19 people were buried in the village of Simam alone but only seven bodies had been recovered. Five others were injured, it said.

The agency did not give details of other casualties in the region. (UPI)

**Fireworks explosion:** Four people were killed and four seriously injured when an explosion devastated a fireworks factory in Sardinia today, firemen said.

They said the dead included the owner of the factory. The walls and roof of a shed where fireworks were being assembled collapsed under the force of the blast.

Two of the four injured were pulled out alive from the rubble and taken to hospital with serious burns. (Reuters)

**Calls for official enquiry:** Calls for an official inquiry into the Lockerbie disaster have intensified after victims' families reacted to news that the US aviation authority is to fine Pan Am, it was reported here on Thursday.

The airline is facing a fine of around \$400,000 for alleged security lapses at London's Heathrow and Frankfurt airports over Flight 103, blown up last December over Scotland.

The British media said this morning that the proposed penalty, announced by the US Federal Aviation Administration on Wednesday brought fresh calls for US Trans-

port Secretary Cecil Parkinson to sanction an inquiry into the disaster which killed 270 people.

Meanwhile, Britain's main opposition Labour Party was also pressing for an inquiry.

On Wednesday, Scotland's most senior law officer said there would be no public inquiry into the disaster while real progress was being made in the hunt for the killers. (Kuna)

**Safety survey:** Safety on airlines comes first for busy international businessmen even if it means extra checks on passengers and baggage, according to a new survey here on Thursday.

The international poll, commissioned by Business Traveller magazine, shows that 87 per cent of its readers are in favour of tighter security measures.

The study, published in October's issue of the magazine, and made available here to the British media, also shows that business travellers, considered an airlines' best customer, have been avoiding companies hit by security scares in recent years.

"The frequency of use" for Japan Airlines is down from 11 per cent to 8 per cent, Air-India from 6 per cent to 3 per cent, and Pan Am from 24 per cent to 20 per cent, it added.

Businessmen answering the questionnaire also backed the wider use of non-smoking areas on aircraft. (Kuna)

**Typhoon toll rises to 500:** The casualty toll from a typhoon that struck China's southeastern province of Zhejiang last weekend has risen to more than 500 dead and missing and nearly 700 people injured, the China Daily reported on Thursday.

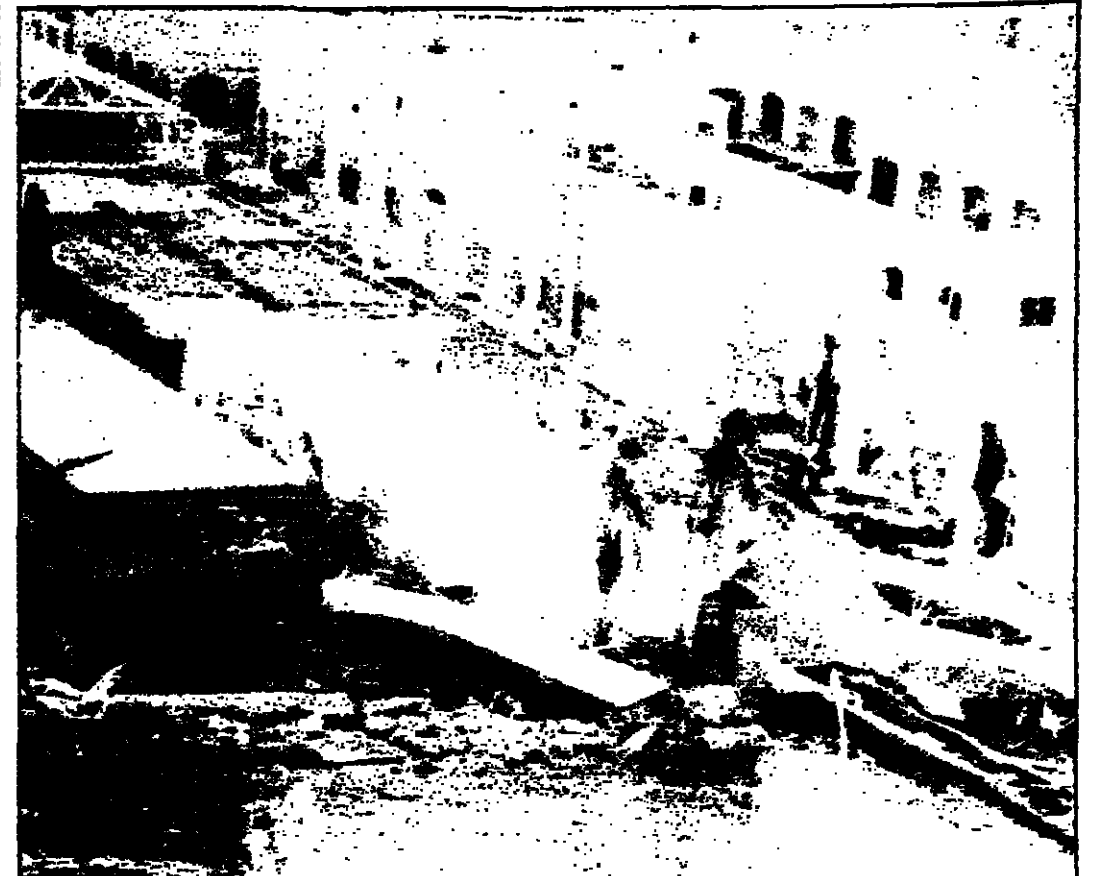
The newspaper said typhoon Vera, the most severe storm to hit the province in 27 years, caused 1.3 billion yuan (\$351 million) in damage and left hundreds of people homeless when it swept the area last Saturday.

The report said the typhoon, which was accompanied by powerful rainstorms, knocked out power and communications lines and breached dikes and dams, flooding millions of acres of cropland.

The revised casualty figures came as rescue teams had been sent to the stricken area to ascertain the extent of damage. The China Daily said the latest toll was 162 dead, 354 missing and 692 injured.

That was sharply up from the toll in the storm's initial onslaught.

Late summer and autumn are the height of the typhoon season in southern China. Earlier this summer, Zhejiang province was hit by storms that caused 1.5 billion (\$405 million) in losses to the state. (UPI)



This is the scene on the waterfront of Christiansted, St. Croix after Hugo ravaged the island. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Hugo ravages South Carolina

CHARLESTON, South Carolina, Sept. 22. (AP) Hurricane Hugo slammed into this 300-year-old city of Antebellum mansions with 135-mile (217-kilometre) an hour winds today. At least five people were reported killed.

"There's just destruction everywhere," Charleston Mayor Joseph P. Riley said after an early morning tour of his ravaged city. "We have on our hands a degree of physical destruction that is unprecedented in anyone's living memory."

President George Bush declared South Carolina a disaster area this morning, making the state eligible for federal loans for rebuilding and to restore utilities.

After a direct hit on South Carolina, Hugo weakened and was downgraded to a tropical storm at 6 am (1000 GMT) by the National Weather Service. Three hours later, the centre of the storm was just north of Hickory, North Carolina, at latitude 36.2 degrees north and longitude 81.5 degrees west, and winds had diminished to 60 miles (96 kilometres) an hour.

Further weakening was expected as Hugo moved northward at 25-30 miles (40-48 kilometres) through North Carolina on a path that would take it into the Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and Pennsylvania. It was expected to hit New Jersey and New York tomorrow.

Some tornadoes were likely in North Carolina and Virginia today, the Weather Service said. But fears of severe flooding in rain-saturated eastern states were eased because of the speed with which Hugo moved up the Appalachians, said Bob Sheets, director of the National Hurricane Centre.

Details were still sketchy about flooding on the barrier islands off the southern east coast, which bore the brunt of Hugo's fury.

In addition to flooding, fires from natural gas leaks erupted in low-lying Charleston, where the first shots of the civil war were fired in 1861. The national guard patrolled tree-lined streets, some of which were under several feet (metres) of water.

As dawn broke, the first reports of deaths in the United States began coming in as rescuers found bodies in the wreckage. Four people died in South Carolina and one in North Carolina, officials said. Earlier, 26 people died as the storm surged across the Caribbean.

Among the deaths was a six-month-old baby, killed in North Carolina when a tree fell on a house, officials said.

The hurricane passed through Charleston with winds of 135 miles (217 kilometres) an hour and gusts even higher. The National Hurricane Centre in Florida reported.

Riley called the hurricane a "disaster of extraordinary dimensions." Hundreds of thousands of people were without electrical power.

## US Army sent to St Croix

### Looting in storm-hit isle

CHRISTIANSTED, US Virgin Islands, Sept. 22. (AP) Military police and Federal Bureau of Investigation agents joined local authorities today in restoring order on hurricane-devastated St. Croix.

Days of widespread looting had emptied the shelves of the Caribbean island's businesses, and dozens of federal marshals and FBI agents were patrolling downtown Christiansted.

They arrived a day earlier at the island's wrecked airport with about 150 soldiers of the 18th Airborne Corps from Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

The rest of the 1,200-man Fort Bragg Unit, composed mostly of military police, was scheduled to be in place before the day was out, said Lt. Col. Ned Longworth, the unit's spokesman.

Most houses on St. Croix were destroyed or severely damaged, with debris covering large parts of the island. Hurricane Hugo, which rolled over the island late Sunday, blew all the leaves off the trees, turning the lush green hills to brown.

Several small planes at the airport were overturned, others were crumpled together in heaps. Hangars were gutted, roofs blown off and the debris scattered over airport grounds.

Little progress had been made in the cleanup. Roads were littered with debris in Christian-

sted, where hundreds of people lined up behind water tank trucks with buckets and jugs. Others siphoned gasoline from wrecked gas stations.

The troops who arrived yesterday brought no food, supplies or water, which many residents said they desperately needed.

By late yesterday it appeared most unprotected stores had been sacked and there was little left to loot. However, witnesses said much of the supermarket looting was done by desperate families living in a disaster zone.

"We have 90 per cent of the island destroyed. This was like an H-bomb hitting St. Croix," Redfield said. "People just need food. They're panicked. It's a reaction of survival."

Joe Sibley, 50, a construction company owner whose home in the hills outside Christiansted was destroyed, said the soldiers were needed because "we're in a situation of anarchy."

"They (the soldiers) are here, thank God," said Carol Rubis, owner of a sporting goods store called Inside Track. "For people like myself who own a store, they came three days too late."

She said looters just laughed at her when she ordered them to leave.

Many residents said looters were not delinquents, but just average citizens. There were no reports of armed clashes between looters and owners.

The few businesses that were not looted were protected by their armed owners. A sign on the door of a Christiansted lawyer's office read: "I don't have any light but I have a gun."

Longworth said his unit's "mission is to assist local civilian authorities in restoring law and order and protecting public and private property."

Three C-140 transport planes landed midday yesterday with about 150 soldiers and four-wheel drive vans for 60 FBI agents and 50 federal marshals, who also arrived.

More soldiers were to arrive later, Longworth said, adding that most of his unit consisted of military police.

"Marshall law has not been declared," he said. "We are authorised to make arrests only in the total absence of local authorities." Longworth said.

President George Bush also declared the Virgin Islands a disaster area and freed up \$500,000 for relief.



US troops were sent to St. Croix after violent looting in the island. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Special court to be formed to prosecute Papandreou for wiretapping

ATHENS, Greece, Sept. 22. (Agencies) A special court will be formed next week to try former Premier Andreas Papandreou for his alleged involvement in wiretapping, Parliament's president said yesterday.

Athanasios Tsaldaris, a member of the conservative New Democracy Party, said the supreme court judges who will hear the case will be chosen by lot on Monday.

Asked if the former premier could avoid court proceedings, Tsaldaris said: "Papandreou will stand trial no matter what happens."

A New Democracy spokesman, Pavlos Bakoyannis, indicated that if his party wins elections scheduled for Nov. 5, anyone convicted of involvement in the wiretap scandal would serve prison sentences and that a general amnesty would not be considered.

His statement was a clear reference to Papandreou. Parliament indicted him Wednesday for allegedly instigating a widespread wiretapping network during his eight years in office.

Papandreou lost the June 18 general election which ended with no party receiving a majority. As a result, New Democracy and the communist-led

coalition of the left and progress formed a governing alliance to begin a cleansing of Greek political life before calling new elections.

Parliament voted to send Papandreou before a 12-member special high court. A parliament commission of inquiry will present evidence of his alleged connection in the wiretapping scandal.

The court will appoint one of its members as an investigator who will be given 30 days to submit a report to the court, which then will set a date to try the 70-year-old former premier.

Nondas Zafiroopoulos, a New Democracy deputy

and former president of the Athens Bar Association, said parliament's decision to refer Papandreou to the scandal court is considered "in itself an indictment" and that the court will try him following its own investigation.

Parliament also voted to refer the former director of the national intelligence service, Costas Tsimas, and the former managing director of the Greek Telecommunications Organisation, Theofanis Tombras, to the special court. They were accused of complicity in the wiretapping of Papandreou's political friends and foes, journalists and publishers.

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## INTERNATIONAL

## Blacks launch consumer boycott

JOHANNESBURG, Sept. 22, (Agencies): Militant black unions launched a nation-wide consumer boycott of white-owned stores today while about 25,000 people staged protest marches in a major city and a conservative farming town.

The unions, seeking to overturn a controversial labour law, also told their 1.5 million members to refuse to work overtime for the next four weeks. Union leaders said this could cut industrial production by 20 per cent or force white employers to hire thousands of additional black workers.

A coalition of anti-apartheid women's groups announced they would proceed with a major march tomorrow on government headquarters in Pretoria despite a ban. The government, for the first time in decades, has allowed several protest marches this month, but the women's march was banned because its leaders refused to seek permission.

Laura Pollecutt, one of the match organisers, said her colleagues had notified authorities of the planned route but did not feel their right to protest was subject to government approval.

In Durban, South Africa's largest port and third-largest city, an estimated 15,000 people of all races, including members of the White City Council, joined a peaceful anti-government march to city hall this afternoon.

About 10,000 protesters led by the Rev. Allan Boesak, President of the World Alliance, staged a similar march in Oudtshoorn, a town of about 40,000 people in southern Cape province. It was by far the largest protest ever in Oudtshoorn, centre of the ostrich-farming industry and scene of frequent confrontations between police and activists.

After a 9-kilometre (5.5 mile) march, the protesters presented police with a list of demands, including a halt to alleged harassment of activists and the arrest of vandals who desecrated tombs of three youths killed by police during unrest in 1985.

Police in Durban and Oudtshoorn kept a low profile, in accordance with the government's 10-day-old policy of permitting some political protests.

The union protests were intended to pressure employers into renouncing a new labour law which unions say undermines their ability to strike. Union leaders urged all blacks to join the consumer boycott, which they said was part of a broad-based national defiance campaign that began in early August.

There was no immediate word from retail organisations about the extent of the boycott, which is intended to continue through Oct. 6. However, department stores in the eastern Cape province cities of East London and King William's town, where the boycott began early, were reported virtually deserted yesterday.

The defiance campaign has included protests against segregation laws, as well as mass marches in several cities.

All the marches had been peaceful until yesterday, when some black youths smashed windows of shops and vehicles in Pietermaritzburg, capital of Natal province. No injuries and only one arrest were reported, but pro-government media gave headline treatment to the incident.

The government said today that organisers of protest marches must request permission at least seven days in advance. Leaders of most of the recent marches have refused to seek a permit.

Several prominent activists have been detained during the defiance campaign, including white Cape Town lawyer Willie Hofmeyr. His father said today that Hofmeyr had ended a 28-day hunger strike, and indicated that Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok was considering releasing the activist.

The Congress of South African trade unions, the largest black labour federation, said no violence or coercion should be used to enforce the consumer boycott.

The boycott also is backed by the national Congress of trade unions, which claims 500,000 members.

South African censors today relaxed a three-year ban on a biography of jailed black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela.

Mary Benson's "Nelson Mandela," censored immediately after publication in 1986, will be available for study at university libraries but should not be released for purchase or lending, the publications committee ruled.

Five people, including two 16-year-old youths, have been killed in fighting between rival black factions in South Africa's Natal province, police said today.

## NEWS IN BRIEF



## Stars meet

Robert de Niro (left) speaks to the reporters after meeting Solidarity leader Lech Walesa (centre) while well-known director Roman Polanski (right) is listening to him. (Reuters wirephoto)



## Automorrow

A futuristic car of Italian designer Luigi Colani (left) is surrounded by shipyard trainees, before being shipped to USA, at the port city of Bremerhaven. Colani introduced his new creations named Automorrow. (Reuters wirephoto)

**Written agreement:** Jewish leaders in Britain said today they welcomed a letter from Cardinal Jozef Glemp, the Polish primate, in which he accepted that a disputed convent at the site of the Auschwitz Nazi death camp must be moved.

The letter appeared to reflect a change of heart on Glemp's part. Glemp wrote that he no longer realised "the shrill voices" and "aggression" in a campaign for moving the convent did not represent world Jewry.

The letter was made public by Sir Sigmund Sternberg, a philanthropist who heads the International Council of Christians and Jews. Glemp handed the letter to Sternberg at a dinner Tuesday at the Polish embassy in London. (AP)

**New party proposed:** The head of the independent Farmers' Union, apparently feeling slighted by its ally Solidarity, proposed yesterday that a new party be formed to represent rural interests.

Although the move could signal the breakup of the broad-based Solidarity movement, Solidarity leader Lech Walesa said that many parties in Poland were inevitable, and he was not disturbed.

Rural Solidarity chairman Jozef Slisz, in a statement in the pro-Solidarity Gazeta Wyborcza newspaper, said his proposed party, to be called Polish Peasants Party-Solidarity, "will help build a civil society." (AP)

**Gains legal status:** A provincial court today legalised the Independent Students Association, a group that supports the opposition Solidarity movement but was outlawed during the 1981 martial law crackdown.

Earlier this week, Lubbers offered the Democratic one ministerial post, a clause that had blocked the legalisation of the association even after the Solidarity union won back its legal status from the government in April. (AP)

**WHO report:** The Hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection is one of the leading causes of death in adults, accounting for over 200,000 deaths globally every year, the World Health Organisation (WHO) said here today.

In some of the most populous regions of the world — Eastern and South-Eastern Asia — more than seven per cent of the population are chronically infected with HBV and over 60 per cent of the population have been infected, a WHO report reveals. (Kuna)

**Party walks out:** A junior left-wing party involved in Premier Ruud Lubbers' efforts to build his third Dutch government walked out of the talks yesterday.

Hans Van Mierlo, leader of the Democrats' 66 grouping, accused Lubbers' Christian Democrats of targeting his party for a "systematic humiliation campaign" over a proposal to legalise voluntary euthanasia.

Earlier this week, Lubbers offered the Democratic one ministerial post in the 14-minister election. The Democrats won 12 seats in the 150-seat legislature, an increase of three. (AP)

**Gunmen free two:** Three gunmen including France's most wanted criminal freed two of their three hostages today after a six-day siege in a Belgian village, eyewitnesses said.

The girls were immediately led to ambulances and taken to hospital. Their mother was still being held, they added. (Reuters)

**EEC sues UK:** The EEC commission Wednesday decided to take Britain to court for failing to comply with EEC water standards.

Carlo Ripa Di Meana, the EEC commissioner for the environment, said it had "been impossible to avoid confirming a decision taken by the commission on July 19 to take the drinking water case to court."

A two-month postponement had been granted in July in the hope that the delay would allow the commission and Britain to find a solution less radical than a court case. (AP)

**Soviet defects:** A former associate of Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze defected to the United States after this month during a visit to Italy, Italian newspaper reported yesterday.

US embassy spokesman Michael Hahn said yesterday he could not confirm or deny the reported defection of Vladimir T. Alpidze, a candidate member of the central committee of the Communist Party in Soviet Georgia in 1981 when Shevardnadze was the party boss there. (AP)

**Powell to replace:** Army Gen. Colin Powell was approved by the Senate early yesterday as chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, becoming the first black to hold America's most senior military position.

Powell, 52, will take over Oct 1 from Adm. William Crowe, who has held the job for the past four years.

President Bush's nominee vaulted over several more senior four-star officers, including the deputy chairman, Air Force Gen. Robert Herres, who had been Crowe's recommendation for his replacement. (UPI)

**FBI check disqualifies:** A Texas judge picked up President George Bush to head the office of government ethics has been ruled out after an FBI background check found "disqualifying" information. A newspaper reported today.

Paul Fressler of Houston had not yet been formally nominated for the post, but the routine background check was being conducted in preparation for that, the Washington Post reported. (AP)

**Labour surveys:** Britain's ruling Conservative Party received more than £3 million in donations from public companies in the UK last year, an opposition Labour Party survey claimed yesterday.

The biggest donor of the 236 firms given directly to the party was the construction firm, Taylor Woodrow, which gave £111,455 according to figures compiled by Labour researchers.

British Airways donated £50,000 after it was privatised by the British government, and has also made a further donation of £40,000 in 1989, they disclosed. (Kuna)

**Namibian elections to start:** South African and United Nations officials will conduct elections in Namibia from November 7 to 11, state radio reported today.

The results of the UN-supervised poll will be announced three days later, said Administrator-General Louis Pienaar, South Africa's top representative in the territory.

The elections will pave the way for Namibia's independence from South Africa early next year. (Reuters)

## Republics welcome Politburo changes

Shcherbitsky ousted: more autonomy given

MOSCOW, Sept. 22, (Agencies): Activists in the Soviet republics rejoiced yesterday over the retirement of conservative Politburo members but wondered whether it would change the official attitude towards their demands for sovereignty.

"Everybody thinks it was a good riddance," Tarmu Tammerik, a journalist with the newspaper Kodumaa, said of the reaction in the small Baltic republic of Estonia to the retirement on Tuesday of a quarter of the ruling Communist Party body.

Ending a long-delayed session devoted to ethnic policy, the policy-making central committee accepted the retirement of Ukrainian party

The meeting addressed ethnic tensions that have resulted in more than 200 deaths, hundreds of thousands of refugees and a plethora of strikes in the past 18 months.

The 17-year-old Shcherbitsky, the last hold-over from former President Leonid Brezhnev's era, was regarded as one of the Politburo's most conservative members and kept a tight rein on the Ukraine for 17 years.

He did not immediately resign as Ukrainian party chief, but that is likely when a central committee meeting is held in his republic.

Ukrainian activists said they did not know who might replace him, and doubted whether his successor would pursue more moderate policies.

"All the members of the Ukrainian Politburo are more or less like Shcherbitsky, even the younger ones," said Bogdan Gorin, a leader of the Ukrainian Helsinki group, formed to monitor human rights in the Soviet Union's second-largest republic.

Gorin said by telephone from the western Ukrainian city Lvov that he was disappointed in Gorbachev's speech setting out his ethnic policy. The speech smacked of "old stereotypes" that regard the Soviet union as a country under a unified government rather than a federation of equal governments, he said.

"He started for the first time to threaten those political figures and organisations who are raising the issue of independence," Gorin said.

Gorin also criticised Gorbachev's statement that the Baltic republics joined the Soviet Union voluntarily at the outbreak of World War II.

But Tomas Avikson, a spokesman for the Estonian People's Front political movement, said the organisation found little new and nothing to worry about in Gorbachev's speech. For Estonians, the retirement of conservative Politburo members was more important, he said.

"Of course, it was a step forward for Gorbachev, and for us, too," said Avikson.

He said the activists particularly were pleased by the retirement of Chebrikov, who has been accused by some of having prior knowledge of an attack by soldiers on a nationalist protest in the Georgia republic.

A score of protesters were killed. Chebrikov was transferred last September from head of KGB secret policy to a new party position overseeing legal affairs. Many critics had charged it was impossible for the Soviet Union to be transformed into a country governed by law rather than dictate while a former KGB official was in charge of legal reforms.

An Azerbaijani blockade has cut off supplies of paper, preventing newspapers in Armenia from publishing, Pravda reported today.

Pravda denounced the Azerbaijani action, saying "it is difficult to believe that in our socialist government, one of the union republics could find itself in an encircling economic blockade."

Armenia has appealed to the Soviet Parliament to take urgent steps to lift a month-long economic blockade paralysing industry and transport in the southern republic. Pravda reported today.

Ambitious reforms aimed at righting an economy foundering on a \$200-billion budget deficit will be set before the Soviet Parliament when it resumes formal session on Monday.

Members of the Soviet Parliament have joined public condemnation of the Communist Party daily Pravda over an article ridiculing reformist and public hero Boris Yeltsin.

neither of whom are at the Canberra conference.

Bentsur, a disarmament specialist, said a Middle East conference could give impetus to current Geneva talks on a global ban.

"We call upon our neighbourhoods to enter into talks with Israel to create a region free of chemical weapons," he said at the end of the four-day conference.

"Should they respond in the affirmative it might be a sound beginning for talks on a comprehensive peace in the Middle East," he added.

An Iranian delegate said his government

## Gorby, Maggie meet to better ties

MOSCOW, Sept. 22, (Agencies): Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev will have three hours of talks tomorrow with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher at a Kremlin meeting to revive relations marred by tit-for-tat expulsions in May.

British officials said the talks have no firm agenda but would cover a broad range of international issues as well as reviewing bilateral relations since their last meeting during Gorbachev's visit to London in April.

The two leaders have consistently enjoyed a good personal relationship and both sides described relations after the April visit as the "best ever." But the image was shattered a month later when London expelled 11 Soviet officials for spying.

Moscow swiftly responded in kind, ordering out eight British diplomats and three journalists and announcing plans to limit the number of Britons working in the Soviet Union.

"This is something we are now putting behind us," a British diplomat told Reuters. "It was a blip in our relations which should have no long-term effects."

The official Soviet news agency Tass said yesterday that Soviet diplomats agreed that the row should not be seen as an obstacle to bilateral relations, but accused Britain of a self-righteous attitude.

"The British are trying to assume the role of judge, a position to which the USSR strongly objects," it said.

Thatcher made clear her determination to maintain a positive note with fulsome praise of the Soviet leader yesterday during her current visit to Tokyo, when she called on the world to back the reforms Gorbachev had set in motion.

"His policies have been bold, courageous and visionary," she said. "He is the most bold and courageous leader the Soviet Union has had while under communism."

Her remarks were swiftly reported by Tass — an indication of Moscow's eagerness to view the coming visit in a positive light. A similarly upbeat tone was adopted by Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov, announcing Thatcher's news conference after her talks with Gorbachev tomorrow.

"I hope many of you will sacrifice your weekend to meet the high guest from Great Britain," he told journalists.

Tass also welcomed the visit, which it said had attracted "great interest" in the Soviet Union.

Meanwhile, Mrs Thatcher flew to Moscow today to see Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. Mixing calls for aid to East-bloc reformers with an admonition that the long history of East-West conflict is not over.

Mrs Thatcher, who was in Japan to attend the conference of right-of-centre political party leaders, left on the 10-hour flight to Moscow about 4 pm (0700 GMT) after a day that started with an early-morning visit to a British Commonwealth war cemetery in Yokohama, just south of Tokyo.

chief Vladimir Shcherbitsky, former KGB chief Viktor Chebrikov and Viktor Nikonov.

In a stunning power play at a time when some Soviets had begun to worry openly about a civil war or a Kremlin coup against him, President Mikhail Gorbachev also succeeded in promoting his new KGB chief, Vladimir Kryuchkov, and economic planning chief Yuri Maslyukov.

The central committee passed a policy statement calling for the 15 Soviet republics to take on more economic and political autonomy, including ownership of all natural resources, but drew a line at calls for independence.



Bush gestures towards Shevardnadze at the start of a photo session in the Rose Garden. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Summit next year: Bush

JACKSON HOLE, Wyoming, Sept. 22, (AP): Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze met today to consider a date for a summit next year and work out details of agreements to cut nuclear, chemical and conventional forces.

"We want to preserve and strengthen the improving international environment," Baker said as he arrived last night at his mountain resort for two days of talks and a half-day of fishing.

Shevardnadze told reporters on his arrival aboard a US Air Force jet that his meeting with President George Bush at the White House on Thursday was "a good beginning" for the talks.

"We see the emergence of good prospects," the Soviet minister said, although Bush said no summit was likely until near the middle of 1990.

"We need some fresh ideas and hopefully the good fresh air of Wyoming will help to bring them forward," Shevardnadze said.

Shevardnadze, speaking to reporters after his meeting with Bush, said: "We have concluded that a summit is necessary. There is no doubt about that."

Bush said in an ABC-TV interview last night that there would be a summit with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. Asked whether it would be early next year, he replied, "I wouldn't say early."

Baker said: "We hope to have a general time frame for a summit which we could announce while we're in Wyoming."

A top Soviet arms control negotiator, Viktor Karpov, told reporters that a "deadlock" over

US development of a space-based, anti-missile system was blocking a proposed strategic arms reduction treaty.

A senior US official, however, said later: "I don't think it is correct to say there is a deadlock."

The Soviets want the Americans to spell out how they will adhere to an agreement reached at the December 1987 summit that both sides will honour the 1972 anti-ballistic missile treaty that curbs strategic defenses.

Karpov, reviving an idea broached in 1988, said the Soviet Union sought agreed guidelines on the extent to which certain weapons could be tested in space, an idea that the United States has spurned.

Chemical weapons: The two sides reportedly are close to an agreement to exchange information on their chemical weapons programmes and to open stockpiles and plants to inspections by the other side. Baker and Shevardnadze hope to resolve details, including whether US chemical weapons stored in West Germany would be covered.

Human rights: The two sides were to issue an agreement on expanding dialogue beyond traditional issues, such as Soviet emigration, to new areas, including occupational safety, the environment and criminal justice.

Ice curtain: An agreement was expected to allow easier visits by Alaska Eskimos to their distant kin in Soviet Siberia, banned since the Kremlin blocked passage across the Bering Strait in 1948.

## Bush favoured over Reagan

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22, (Reuters): Americans prefer George Bush over Ronald Reagan as President by more than two to one, according to a new poll yesterday.

The NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll also said that nearly three times as many respondents preferred First Lady Barbara Bush over Nancy Reagan.

The survey, conducted among 1,003 registered voters, found that 67 per cent of those queried approved of Bush's performance as President. The poll did not compare this with any previous period.

In the Bush-Reagan comparison, 48 per cent of those polled said they preferred Bush, 22 per cent chose Reagan, nine per cent said they liked them both equally, 10 per cent said they liked neither and 11 per cent were not sure.

## GDR rejects call for reform

BERLIN, Sept. 22, (AP): The East German government has rejected calls for reform of the hardline Communist Party leadership by declaring a new pro-democracy group illegal and accusing its organisers of "anti-state policies."

The state-run ADN news agency carried an Interior Ministry statement last night declaring Neues Forum illegal and unconstitutional.

The harsh rebuff drowned out a few recent notes of conciliation by senior officials who had called for rethinking of state policies in the wake of a mass exodus of young workers for West Germany.

A Deputy Culture Minister, Klaus Hoepcke, had been quoted as saying the leadership should probe the causes of the westward flight and make the improvements necessary to stem it.

Neues Forum, which means new forum, was established two weeks ago by 30 East Germans pushing reform of the Stalinist system under the leadership of ailing 77-year-old leader Erich Honecker.

While Hungary and Poland have introduced sweeping democratic changes loosening the Communist Party's grip on power, East Berlin's leadership has held fast to its hardline policies.

A West German official said that well over 500 East Germans were camped out at the West German embassy in Prague, Czechoslovakia, seeking free passage to the West.

## 'Arms accord soon'

BRUSSELS, Sept. 22, (AP): With fresh Western arms proposals on the bargaining table, a senior Nato official expressed confidence yesterday that negotiators would reach an early agreement to reduce non-nuclear forces in Europe.

The official said "we're very optimistic that we can" wrap up an accord in the time-frame of six months to a year suggested last May by US President George Bush.

"Since the other side has also endorsed this time-frame, we will do everything in our power, jointly with the other side, to meet it," said the official of the 16-nation North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. He spoke on condition of anonymity.

Nato negotiators offered new measures at the arms talks in Vienna for limiting military manoeuvres by nations of the Western alliance and the seven of the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact. They also proposed an exchange of information about each nation's forces and weapons systems, advance notification of a call-up of reserves and ways to verify compliance with an eventual treaty.

The discussions began in early March to cut troops, tanks, combat aircraft and helicopters, and armoured personnel carriers.

The bargaining covers an area spanning the Atlantic Ocean to the Ural mountains.

He said there was "incipient agreement on a great number of elements, including the numbers," a reference to ceilings that would be set on the amount of weapons each side could hold.

There also was, he said, "a good prospect" that both groups could agree on key definitions of weapons systems that would be covered in a treaty.

The pace of the talks has picked up sharply since Bush unveiled at a Nato summit last May in Brussels a wide-ranging plan for cutting conventional weapons and offered the quick timetable.

The assertion received qualified acceptance by the United States, whose delegate, Assistant Secretary of State Richard Clarke, said he agreed 1990 would be "crucial."

He said he hoped Evans was right but added it was essential to make a world-wide convention banning chemical weapons politically, technically and legally watertight.

Soviet delegate Nikita Smidovich was less cautious, saying, "we are ready to sign a convention at the end of 1989."

## Israel seeks Mideast conference on poison gas

CANBERRA, Sept. 22, (Reuters): Israel today called for a conference of all Middle East states to negotiate a ban on the production and stockpiling of chemical weapons.

Chief Israeli delegate Eytan Bentsur made the call at a chemical weapons conference attended by 67 nations.

Bentsur told delegates a world convention banning chemical weapons was essential "in the light of the fact that two states are known to be producing and stockpiling huge arsenals of chemical weapons."

Members of the Israeli delegation said Bentsur was referring to Syria and Libya,

neither of whom are at the Canberra conference.

Bentsur, a disarmament specialist, said a Middle East conference could give impetus to current Geneva talks on a global ban.

"We call upon our neighbourhoods to enter into talks with Israel to create a region free of chemical weapons," he said at the end of the four-day conference.

"Should they respond in the affirmative it might be a sound beginning for talks on a comprehensive peace in the Middle East," he added.

An Iranian delegate said his government

preferred an international ban on chemical weapons pursued in Geneva rather than at a regional conference.

Both Iran and Iraq attended the Canberra conference, which was addressed earlier by an Australian delegate who witnessed chemical weapon casualties in the Gulf war between the two states.

Government world-wide generally agree that by the end of next year they can make major progress on banning chemical weapons.

Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans predicted the breakthrough, after 20 years of Geneva debate, at a conference

in Canberra of government and industry delegates from 67 nations.

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# Lebanese Muslim deputy shot dead

Rivals accuse each other

BEIRUT, Sept. 22. (Agencies): An assassin yesterday shot dead a moderate Sunni Muslim Lebanese parliamentarian in Beirut where Lebanon's rivals accused each other of the killing. Witnesses said a gunman shot Nazem Qadri, 74, in the head at point-blank range with a silenced pistol as he was getting into his car in Muslim west Beirut. He died instantly.

Two other gunmen shot dead Qadri's driver as he attempted to draw a pistol. Two passersby were wounded in the shooting, one of them critically, security sources said.

Witnesses said Qadri was getting into his Mercedes after leaving a barber's shop at 10 am (0700 GMT) when the gunman approached him.

"He said 'Sir, Sir,' Qadri turned around and the gunman shot him in the head," one witness at the scene told Reuters.

Qadri collapsed on the pavement in a pool of blood. His false teeth lay nearby. Several bullets and empty cartridges were found near the car.

"Everything happened so fast. It was a carefully plotted professional operation," another witness said.

Syrian troops and policemen immediately cordoned off the area.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the killing of Qadri, a member of the moderate Islamic grouping who hails from the eastern Bekaa valley.

In a recent interview with the London-based Lebanese magazine Al-Hawadeth, Qadri was quoted as saying he backed the Arab League proposals.

He had been member of Parliament for 38 years. The 99-member legislative body was last elected in 1972. Only 73 deputies are still alive.

Selim Hoss, the Sunni Muslim acting prime minister of Lebanon, said Damascus-backed caretaker government said: "We were deeply distressed by this outrageous assassination."

The head of the grouping and Lebanon's highest Sunni authority, Mufti Hassan Khaled, was killed in a car bomb explosion "blasted his motorcade last May."

Four other deputies have been assassinated including late prime minister Rashid Karami who died when a bomb ripped through his helicopter on June 1, 1987.

Christian Army chief General Michel Aoun, who in March launched a "war of liberation" against Syria's 33,000 troops in Lebanon, accused Damascus of the killing.

"The assassination proves once again that the Lebanese is adamant on blowing up all bridges for reconciliation and cutting all ties allowing discussion between the Lebanese," he said.

A statement by the Syrian-backed Al-Ba'ath Party said Aoun was behind the killing to foil Arab peace efforts.

The assassination came five days after the Arab League announced a new plan to bring peace to the embattled country.

"Aoun said he would not endorse the plan before receiving written Arab guarantees that Syria would withdraw from Lebanon."

The Arab plan calls for an immediate ceasefire, political equality between Muslims and Christians, and end to a Syrian sea blockade on Aoun's Christian enclave and the gradual pull-back of foreign forces, including Syrian troops.

"The Israeli troops clashed with Iranian-backed commandos for four hours in the eastern Bekaa valley on Thursday."

Syria would withdraw from Lebanon. The Arab plan calls for an immediate ceasefire, political equality between Muslims and Christians, and end to a Syrian sea blockade on Aoun's Christian enclave and the gradual pull-back of foreign forces, including Syrian troops.

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## UN endorses Arab effort

### Truce call backed

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 22. (Agencies): The UN Security Council has unanimously declared its support for the Arab League's effort to arrange a truce in Beirut and a political settlement to end Lebanon's 14-year civil war.

The 15-member council backed the Arab League's appeal "for an immediate and comprehensive ceasefire, the implementation of the security arrangements and the establishment of the necessary conditions for national reconciliation in Lebanon."

The statement supported the Arab League's efforts to guarantee Lebanon's "full sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity," but did not mention the presence of Syrian and Israeli troops in Lebanon.

The council's president, ambassador Paulo Nogueira-Batista of Brazil, read out the statement.

The council's action drew criticism from the Christian Lebanese Charge d'Affaires, Chawki Choucri, who told Kuna he wasn't satisfied with the statement.

"We don't want any more statements from the council. They say nothing," he said.

He said the statement should have included other points which are important to solving the conflict, such as a call on the withdrawal of Israeli forces and all non-Lebanese forces from the country, he said.

The American delegate, Thomas Pickering, told Kuna the council is doing its best to support the work of the Arab League tripartite committee.

In Beirut, an Arab League envoy expected a response from Christian leader Gen. Michel Aoun on the latest attempt to end the bloodshed.

Envoy Lakhdar Ibrahim said he would abandon his peace mission in Lebanon if fighting continued.

"All that I am asking for are measures to ensure security so that other issues could be discussed. If this doesn't happen, I'll leave Lebanon. I will not declare war but what will happen on the ground?" Ibrahim asked.

For reconciliation and cutting all ties allowing discussion between the Lebanese," he said.

A statement by the Syrian-backed Al-Ba'ath Party said Aoun was behind the killing to foil Arab peace efforts.

The assassination came five days after the Arab League announced a new plan to bring peace to the embattled country.

"Aoun said he would not endorse the plan before receiving written Arab guarantees that Syria would withdraw from Lebanon."

The Arab plan calls for an immediate ceasefire, political equality between Muslims and Christians, and end to a Syrian sea blockade on Aoun's Christian enclave and the gradual pull-back of foreign forces, including Syrian troops.

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Afghan police search through the wreckage of a military truck which exploded in Kabul. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Last barge dismantled

MANAMA, Sept. 22. (AP): The United States has dismantled the last of its two fortified barges in the northern Gulf in a move that reflects continued calm after the Iran-Iraq ceasefire 13 months ago, US sources said yesterday.

An official announcement said the barge, code-named Hercules, would be deactivated by Sept. 30. Other sources said it already had been withdrawn from its position off the coast of Saudi Arabia and towed to Bahrain.

The Navy statement said the withdrawal of the giant construction barge, with its towering crane, did not reduce the US commitment to maintaining security in the Gulf.

"We will continue to adjust forces in the area to meet the current threat," it said, adding that US forces "could quickly respond to new threats ... with surface combatants or other measures."

Hercules was one of two "mobile sea bases" set up by the United States in late 1987 to support naval operations in the northern Gulf, after both Kuwait and Saudi Arabia refused to allow US bases on their soil.

Kuwait agreed, however, to play the cost of leasing the barges when US officials argued that US refueling and naval escort of 11 Kuwaiti oil tankers was the main reason for the increased American military presence in the Gulf.

Cloaked in secrecy, the Hercules and the second barge, Wimbrown 7, served as bases for Navy patrol boats and special night-prowling Army helicopters to track Iranian minelaying and gunboats in the busy seaways leading to Saudi and Kuwaiti ports.

US officials have credited them with a decisive role in stifling Iranian attacks on commercial shipping around Iran's Farsi island.

Anchored in international waters and ringed by special floating missile detectors, the barges were manned by mixed contingents of marines, Navy seal commandos and Army helicopter units.

Iran won't tolerate Hashemi-Rafsanjani has accepted an invitation from his Bulgarian counterpart to visit Sofia, the official Islamic Republic News Agency said.

Bulgarian Minister of Foreign Trade Andrei Lukinov delivered the invitation to Rafsanjani during a meeting in Tehran late Wednesday, Iran said.

Rafsanjani also warned the country's armed forces of the need to remain prepared for any possible attack against its borders, Tehran Radio said.

Iran said it will start manufacturing warplanes next year.

The new commander of the Air Force, Air Vice-Marshal Muzahem Sa'ab Hassan, told a news conference in Baghdad today: "Next year will witness the production of Iraqi warplanes ... the project is in its advanced stages."

Several hundred of the approximately 1,000 vehicles in the huge convoy carrying fuel and munitions for the Kandahar garrison survived rebel attacks and reached the city last week after a more than three-week journey of some 300 miles (480 km) from the massive air base at Shindand in the east of the country.

Kabul Radio reported troops killed 12 rebels and injured 17 others in fighting in Kandahar. It also reported 32 rebels killed and 25 wounded in battles around the eastern garrison town of Khost near the Pakistan border.

The reports could not be independently confirmed.

Meanwhile Afghanistan has asked former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt to help find a solution to the war between the government and mujahideen rebels.

Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil said yesterday.

Brandt, president of the Socialist International, was the first prominent Western politician Kabul has asked for help, said Wakil, who was in Bonn on his way to the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

Pakistan is seeking a consensus on Afghanistan at next month's UN General Assembly session, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Former King Zahir Shah of Afghanistan has not so far applied for a visa to visit Pakistan, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

they all trooped off to Touba — the "city of bliss" in Arabic.

For the Mourides, Senegal's richest and most influential Islamic brotherhood, a visit to the annual festival, known as the Great Magal, bestows spiritual benefits.

Touba has achieved a special status because of its significance as a holy city for the powerful Mourides. The town is effectively off-limits to the security forces all year round.

Religious leaders have imposed a permanent ban on alcohol and tobacco and visitors are thoroughly searched at a police roadblock set up just outside the town.

Mouridism, a sect of Sunni Islam which recruits faithful from all walks of life, glorifies

hard work on earth to secure a place in Allah's paradise.

Streets are patrolled by young vigilantes called Baye Fall. Dressed in colourful patchwork robes and sporting rastafarian-type dreadlocks, they carry a menacing club in one hand, a begging bowl in the other.

They are responsible for crowd control during the Magal while working for most of the year on the fields owned by the sect's "Marabouts" (religious leaders).

The annual event celebrates the departure into exile in 1895 to Gabon of the founder of the sect, Cheikh Amadou Bamba, twice banished by French colonial rulers who feared his political influence.

## Afghan rebels pound Kabul

ISLAMABAD, Sept. 22. (UPI): US-backed Afghan rebels unleashed an intense rocket barrage on Kabul Wednesday, killing at least 10 people and wounding 15 others, official Kabul Radio said.

The shells also caused extensive property damage in the capital, which has suffered under a series of guerrilla rocket attacks during the past two months that have caused hundreds of casualties, the radio said.

The Pashto-language broadcast said 13 US-made rockets slammed into the city Wednesday. It said 10 civilians, including women and children, were killed and 15 others injured.

Wednesday's barrage follows two major rebel rocket attacks against Kabul airport this month that left at least 12 people dead and caused damage to aircraft and buildings at the facility. The rebels have warned foreign airlines operating in Kabul their planes may be hit if they use the airport.

The rebel-run media information department of Islamic Afghanistan, meanwhile, said rebels killed 19 troops in an attack on government positions around the airport in the southern city of Kandahar on Monday.

It said rebels also ambushed part of a massive government convoy near Kandahar, destroying four tanks. Three rebels were killed in the fighting, the media said.

It said rebels on Monday set fire to another 36 trucks from the same convoy in the town of Lashkargah, 80 miles (130 km) west of Kandahar.

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## Mubarak appeal rejected

### Plan to topple Shamir denied

KUWAIT, Sept. 22. (Agencies): Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak denied in an interview published today that his 10-point plan for elections in the Israeli-occupied West Bank was aimed at toppling Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir's coalition government.

"I have no interest in the downfall of the Israeli government, because this would delay for more than two years the (Arab-Israeli) peace process," Mubarak told a Kuwaiti daily in an interview conducted with him shortly after his recent meeting in Cairo with Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

"A Palestinian-Israeli dialogue will take place sooner or later, so there is no need to waste time in new elections (in Israel)," he added.

Mubarak advised Shamir to seize the opportunity and open a dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation, in efforts to establish the permanent peace which has eluded the Jewish state since its foundation more than 40 years ago.

"I'm optimistic and hope Mr Shamir will not betray this optimism, otherwise a rare opportunity will be lost," Mubarak said.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, rejecting Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's appeal to trade occupied land for peace, said on Thursday that Arabs were not willing to give Israel peace.

Shamir dismissed Mubarak's televised appeal to the Israeli people to change their government's mind as a joke.

Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Shimon Peres voiced strong support for the latest Middle East peace initiatives, saying it was a historic moment that must be seized by a unified Israel.

Peres likened the current diplomatic climate to a fast horse that must be mounted before it gallops by.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat said he supported Egyptian efforts to convene Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

"We accept the dialogue with Israel without any preconditions from both sides," Arafat told reporters after a two-hour meeting with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Arafat has appealed to the European Economic Community to support Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's proposals for Palestinian elections in the Israeli-occupied territories, diplomats say.

Turkish troops killed nine rebels of the separatist Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) in southeast Turkey, the semi-official Anatolian news agency said on Thursday. (Reuters)

Abu Dhabi: A committee of Arab ambassadors in Vienna met on Thursday with the permanent UN representative to the UN Michel Nollan with the aim of reaching a formula agreeable by all parties on the Arab draft resolution for changing the name of the PLO into Palestine as a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency. (Kuna)

Bumper harvest: Egypt has produced a bumper wheat harvest this year but must buy huge quantities from abroad because most of the home-grown crop was used to feed animals, foreign experts say. (Reuters)

Sale of arms to Arabs: Despite expected opposition from Congress, the White House has decided to put up a strong lobbying battle in support of the sale of front-line arms to some Arab countries, administration officials indicated in Washington. (Kuna)

New Noah's Ark claim: Turkish officials on Friday played down a US team's claim to have found a new landing site for Noah's Ark on Mount Ararat. (Reuters)

Opposition press: A rudimentary opposition press is emerging for the first time in Algeria's post-colonial history, the offspring of new political parties legalised in the past few weeks. (Reuters)

Prison sentence: Three men have been sentenced to prison for conspiring to export a radar landing system to Iran, but not before complaining that government agents led them to break the law. (AP)

Infilitrators captured: An Israeli Army force patrolling along Israel's border with Jordan captured two Jordanian infiltrators who planned to attack an Army patrol, the military command said on Wednesday. (AP)

The Satanic Verses excluded: German publishers of The Satanic Verses are withholding the controversial novel by Salman Rushdie from Frankfurt's prestigious book fair, fearing violent protests. (Reuters)

King inaugurates new embassy: King Carl Gustaf and Queen Silvia inaugurated a new Swedish embassy in the Jordanian capital on Thursday before flying south for sightseeing in the 2,000-year-old ruins of Petra. (AP)

Call for ban: Israel called on its Arab neighbours on Friday to open immediate talks on a regional ban on chemical weapons. (AP)

Evidence of circumcision: Israeli archaeologists say they have found what may be the earliest evidence of the custom of circumcision among Jews. (Reuters)

Arafat told a briefing on Thursday for ambassadors and charge d'affaires from Britain, France, Greece, Italy and Spain that European support for the plan could help the Middle East peace process, they said.

Arafat, just back from a meeting with Mubarak in Egypt, did not mention any specific measures he wanted the EEC to take.

Angry aides to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir urged President Hosni Mubarak to "stop preaching" after the Egyptian leader appealed to Israelis to back his plan for Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

A Palestinian strike against Israel's imprisonment of thousands of Arabs paralysed business and halted public transport in East Jerusalem and the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip today.

Shops were shuttered in Arab East Jerusalem's normally bustling commercial district in solidarity with those jailed for alleged involvement in a 21-month uprising against Israeli rule.

A military training hand grenade was thrown toward a Tel Aviv bus Thursday but did not explode as the vehicle passed through the city's commercial centre, police said.

No injuries occurred in the incident along Dizengoff Street, but the bus was slightly damaged when the training grenade landed inside, a police spokesman said.

President Bush and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak will review Middle East peace prospects for the third time this year at a White House meeting on Oct 2, the White House said.

Masked men attacked two Palestinians accused of collaborating with Israeli authorities in the Gaza Strip today, killing one and severely injuring another, Palestinian sources said.

Shamir

Shamir



# Kuwait to host international water distillation conference

## 20 countries to participate

By Nashat Al Agha

THE Fourth International Conference for water distillation will be held in Kuwait during the period Nov 4-8, 1989, entitled "Distillation in a changing world."

The conference will be opened under the patronage of HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah. Kuwait was picked out to be the place of this vital international conference due to its distinguished efforts

made in the field.

Three previous conferences in the same field were held in the 1980's, the first was in Italy in 1983, the second in the Bermuda Islands in 1985 and the third in France in 1987. The fourth conference will be held in USA in 1991.

### Research

Seyassa interviewed Fatma Al Awadhi, the director of the Water Resources Development Centre at the Ministry of Electricity and Water and head of the conference organising committee.

mittee.

Awadi stated that 20 countries will take part in the conference adding that 172 scientific research papers on the possibility of lowering distillation costs, distillation in the frame of the Water Resources Department, non-traditional distillation techniques, different distillation experiments, reverse osmosis, automatic control and measurement instruments will be focussed.

She added that the first session of the conference will be headed by Dr Hmoud

Al Rqobah, the Electricity and Water minister. Invitations were sent to 5000 different establishments around the world to attend the conference.

The conference will be organised and supported by the Ministry of Electricity and Water, Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences and Kuwait University. A special scientific committee which will have an important role during the conference will include 15 specialised scientists from Kuwait, Saudi

Arabia, America, Japan, West Germany, Britain, Greece, Holland and Italy who all have long experience in the field of water distillation.

A special plan is designed to publish the proceedings of the conference and to immediately transfer it to different press agencies. A scientific exhibition will be held during the conference which will focus on distillation techniques. Thirty establishments will participate in the exhibition scheduled to be held at the conference hall in Regency Palace Hotel.

## Paris week a step forward, says Razouqi

PARIS, Sept 22, (Kuna): Kuwait's Ambassador to France Dr Tareq Razouqi yesterday said the French public to introduce the French public to the heritage and traditions of Kuwait.

"This cultural event recalls memories of two years ago during the opening of the Arab World Institute, and this has a special significance because it precedes the official visit of HH the Amir," Dr Razouqi told the Kuwait news agency.

"The cultural week is a grand achievement for Kuwait in France, and we noticed the great interest of the French Labour Minister, Jean-Pierre Soisson while touring the galleries," he added.

"We are taking a step forward in the fields of letters and intellectual growth which have a dear part in the formation of the French society," the Kuwaiti ambassador maintained.

## Citizens bemoan high cost of construction

THOUGH many residential plots have been distributed at different areas in the country, owners of these plots face several problems. These include inadequate amounts of loans granted, in addition to the escalating cost of building materials.

A local daily interviewed a number of citizens who received their plots at Rabiya South area to highlight their views.

Baqer Mohammed said that most citizens face many problems when building their houses due to a lack of government control on construction materials. He stated that though he has prepared a special budget for the loans he was granted, the loan amount by the time of realisation was far inadequate to meet the escalating costs of construction materials.

Additionally, the lack of censorship on contractors and subcontractors who more often than not do not own a licence and work under the sponsorship of a company who have an official licence makes it more difficult. These subcontractors often lack adequate technical experience in construction skills.

Commenting, he said that it is preferable to obtain a government house than to be provided with a plot and a loan. Basically, he said that by the time the house is built, there are not only overheads, but the owner is left with absolutely no way in which he could furnish the abode.

Abdul Amir Najjar stated that he has delayed building his house for a year in the hope that the cost of construction materials would ease. The government housing allocation of KD54,000, by the time it is received has highly depreciated due to the increase in the cost of building materials and is totally inadequate for the purpose, he said. He said, that if he were aware of this fact, he would have opted for a government built house instead. "A lack of proper monitoring of contractors causes several problems between citizens and contractors," he said.

Salem Al Dwaissan said that when plots are distributed, prices of construction materials go up along with labourers wages. He stated that under the current prices loans will not fulfill construction expenses and therefore, he hoped that the government would increase the amount of the loan.

Khaled Mutlaq Al Dawila stated that he will have to pay KD20,000 in addition to the government loan to be able to finish his house. He added that he chose a plot so he could design his house to adequately accommodate members of his family. Khaled does not prefer a government house due to the fact that the size of the rooms is not adequate.

Ayed Naser a contractor said the government loans are not enough to cover constructing a house consisting of two floors with a basement. He called on government officials to enforce stricter censorship on subcontractors due to the problems they cause.



Gas cylinder explodes in Jabriya

A gas cylinder which exploded in a house in Jabriya yesterday injured the Asian housemaid. The owner of the house Nisar Husain Saleh said that the explosion occurred at 7.15 am when the maid was preparing breakfast. He added that the whole family is to be blamed for the incident because they left the

gas on through the night. The housemaid suffered first and second degree burns and was transferred to the hospital for treatment. Losses are estimated at KD5,000. No one else was hurt. Picture shows structural damage to the house.

## Ministries maintenance cost KD14m

THE director of maintenance department at the Public Works Ministry Adeb Al Awadi has said that maintenance contracts carried out for the different ministries in the fiscal year 1988/89 reached about KD14 million. The ministries submitted about 2,400 applications demanding maintenance and construction work during the same fiscal year.

He added that his department carried out 449 of these applications costing KD4,722,000. 515 applications for Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs that cost KD2,865,000; 382 applications to the Ministry at a cost of about KD1 million and 123 applications from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour that cost KD466,000.

Awadi stressed that computerising these applications and work orders helped the carrying out of these projects and works in the assigned time. He added that the maintenance department is working hard to solve problems that cause delay in maintenance works for the different ministries. The ministry has begun controlling and penalising contractors who delay work. It has become stricter in fixing contracts for delays in projects.

Some work was also withdrawn and accordingly given to other contractors. The ministry will not accept the bids of penalised contractors in its future projects and works, Awadi said.

He pointed out that his department is authorised to maintain buildings and installations of the state. 16 contracts were signed with local companies and contractors including maintenance and construction work in all areas of Kuwait, Awadi added.

## Social Affairs report

### 1,043 local minors referred to welfare

THE number of minors who were referred to the minors welfare houses reached 1,043 cases by the end of July this year. A report issued by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour said that the childhood welfare house shelters 127 children and provides them full and permanent shelter. These children came from families that suffered serious social problems that lead to fragmentation of these families.

The report added that a number of social supervisors look after these children and provide them with all necessary services. The ministry also provides them with a monthly amount of KD30 is deposited in each of the children's accounts. This amount is given to the children after they reach the legal age in order to help them face the future.

Family nursery With regard to the guest house for girls, the report said that this house had received about 75 cases, and this house had been designed to prepare girls over ten years old by providing necessary vocational training and to upgrade their behaviour.

Observation On the other hand, the report said that the observation house was currently caring for 16 juveniles who are between 15-18 years old and were referred to the house by the Public Prosecution Office, while the social care house for boys is currently housing about 67 whose ages range from 7 to 18 years.

Speaking of the social care house for girls, the report said that the house had received no cases during the month of July, while the social control office administered about 320 cases during the said month and was preparing the necessary studies on the delinquents in addition to providing the necessary social research to the Juveniles Court.

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## Action Line

I BROUGHT a new domestic helper to Kuwait. I want to know what is the procedure for applying for the Civil ID?

P.L. Louise.

FOR first time registration, you can send the documents of your domestic helper inside a special envelope of The Public Authority for Civil Information which you can find at the co-operatives for 100 fils.

Fill in the required form. Other documents are the following: Copy of page of domestic's passport containing holder's details.

Copy of page of domestic's passport containing residence stamp. Four coloured photos (3x4).

An applicant should use the yellow form for registration of domestic helpers.

The authority will reject applications where required documents are missing and/or the information provided is not clear or inconsistent.

The card should be collected from Farwaniya ID Collection Office, Sixth Ring Road after a period of ten days has passed from posting the application.

MY daughter who is under my sponsorship, got married last month. I want to know about the possibility of transferring her residence from me to her husband. There has been rumours that residence of such girls cannot be transferred to their husbands if the husbands do not fulfill the residence requirement of KD430 in the government and KD600 in the private sector.

F. Raouil.

ACCORDING to Col Ahmed Al Wohaib director-general of the General Immigration Administration, there are no pre-conditions needed to transfer the residence of girls who marry into dependent visa on their husbands. The salary is no consideration as long as the husband is legally staying and working in Kuwait.

I AM working in semi-government company. My salary is KD190,500. I am staying with my cousin. Last 13 years I am working in the same company. My wife also worked for 13 years on visa No 18. Now she is on visa No. 22 and not working. I have two daughters aged 11 and 6 years old, who are staying in India. I want to bring them for a one month and half on holiday to Kuwait. I want to apply for visit visa for them. What are the required documents? Will the concerned authority issue a visit visa for them?

Laila Lowrance

FAMILY visit visas are granted for one month only, according to Col Ahmed Al Wohaib, the director-general of the General Immigration Administration, in an interview with one of the dailies in July, 1989. He said that the law totally prohibits the extension of visit visas, and the person is required to leave the country at the expiry of the visit visa and may come back on a new visa.

About pre-conditions for family visit visas, Wohaib said that there are no conditions except the salary "without specifying". In your case you should approach the immigration department and explain your case and they will provide you with the definite answer.

I WAS born in Kuwait in 1965. My birth certificate was lost in 1975, and no copy was made for reference. All I have is a copy of the slip of admission in the hospital. My Indian passport and Civil ID, confirm my place of birth. When re-applying for a new birth certificate, the concerned ministry and the hospital where I was born, said that there are no logs or registration to prove my birth. I want to know what are the procedures for re-applying for a new birth certificate under these circumstances?

A.J.P.

THE only way to get a new birth certificate is to go to the Ministry of Public Health at the Birth Registration Department (behind Awqaf Complex) and explain your case they will help you. That ministry is the only specialised authority for issuing such certificates.

A PRIVATE company wants to appoint my wife as a secretary in their office and is ready to bring her from India on working visa No. 18. Can my wife bring my daughter along with her? Please clarify.

Bashier

YOUR wife's visa No. 18 is issued for her only and not for your daughter. If you are planning to bring your daughter along with your wife, you should apply for a visit visa for the child, in order to come with your wife. If your daughter comes with your wife without a visit visa for her, the concerned authorities will stop her at the airport. It is not allowed to bring any one to the country without a visa even if that person is your daughter accompanying her mother. In order to avoid such a hassle at the airport you should abide by the rules and regulations for entering the country by applying a visit visa for your daughter at the immigration department.

MY husband died last week in Kuwait. I want to know if we want to bury him in India what is the procedure to bury the corpse of the deceased lying at forensic.

Anon.

FIRST, if the person was treated in the hospital and died there the hospital will issue the death certificate after getting it stamped at the Ministry of Public Health at the Death Registration Office. Relatives of the deceased should approach the Ministry of Public Health to enter the death certificate and then attest the death certificate in case of willingness to transport the corpse abroad from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and his country's embassy. Again relatives should call on preventive Health at Al Faiba to fix a time to embalm the corpse and then the transport it in a box (coffin) set for this purpose to Al Amiri Hospital where the corpse is embalmed and then stamped. It is advisable to make early arrangements with one of the travel agencies to transport the corpse by air.

I AM on dependent visa of my husband since 1986. I want to join a private company who is willing to provide me with visa No. 18. Can I transfer my visa No. 22 to visa No. 18?

D. Samir.

NO-DEPENDENT visa holder No. 22 can change to No. 18. First you must cancel your dependent visa and return to your country of origin and then re-enter Kuwait on visa No. 18. The company which will sponsor you can apply for a work permit. If you get that work permit, then you can have your dependent visa cancelled, go back to your country and return to Kuwait. It is not advisable to cancel your dependent visa without obtaining the work permit.

I AM working as a domestic helper since the last four years. I was offered a better job at one of the companies here. Is there any possibility of changing of my visa No. 20 to visa No. 18 without going outside Kuwait?

Anon.

YOU cannot change your visa No. 20 to visa No. 18 without going back to your country. If your new sponsor granted you a visa No. 18, then you'll have to cancel your visa No. 20 leave the country and come back on new visa No. 18.

I AM working in one of the private companies here in Kuwait since ten years. My monthly salary is KD790. Can I sponsor my mother who is 77 years old and very sick?

L. Patrons

IF A man working in a private sector and is earning KD600, he can sponsor his family — his wife and children, on dependent visa. However, a parent — mother or father is not eligible for a dependent visa. It is more advisable if you can bring your mother on visit visa (validity is one month only). This does not mean that visit visa can be transferred to dependent visa. If your mother's visit visa expired and you want her to stay longer than that, so you can apply for a new visit visa. As soon as your mother's visit visa expires then she has to leave Kuwait and come back on a fresh visit visa.

I WANT to know if a person residing in Kuwait can use an international driving licence? Can person also visiting Kuwait drive on an international driving licence?

Mathew Johns

ANY person resident in Kuwait cannot drive on an international driving licence. However, a person visiting Kuwait, in principle, can drive on an international driving licence provided he is staying in the country for less than three months.

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**ARAB TIMES 1**

150 reported dead in Danube boat tragedy

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Fires trap Lebanese

Desai fights

Rajiv, Sonia fly in Mother Teresa fine

Prosecute Papa Pasok

Cory to Marcos: Many more — over the



# Kuwaiti intellectuals theorise on development through education

## First seminar at Paris based Arab Institute

PARIS, Sept. 22, (KUNA). A seminar titled "Development and Man in Kuwait" was held at the Arab World Institute in Paris last night within the Kuwaiti cultural week activities.

The seminar grouped Kuwaiti intellectuals representing different Kuwaiti educational institutes.

Those participating in the seminar included Kuwait University's Assistant Rector for Society Services Dr. Rasha Al Sabah, Director of Training Department at Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research Dr. Najla Al Nasar, professor

at Kuwait University Dr. Najat Al Mutawa and Dr. Anwar Al Fiza'at and Secretary General of the Higher Council for Education Dr. Ibrahim Al Khulaifi.

The other Kuwaiti participants were Naima Al Shaiji from the Planning Ministry, Chief Editor of Al Arabi magazine Dr. Mohammed Al Rumaihi and the Director of Rehabilitation and Development of Children Centre Fatim Al Bader.

Dr. Sabah made an opening speech in which she thanked the Arab World

Institute for its efforts and then she introduced her colleagues.

The first speaker Khulaifi and his speech was titled "The Concept of Development through the Educational Process," which tackled opportunities Kuwait has given to its people to learn, the history of schools in Kuwait and the free education provided by the Kuwaiti government to its people.

Mutawa was the next speaker and her speech was titled "Preparing the Teacher and Teaching Foreign Lan-

guages in Kuwait."

She spoke about Kuwait's interest in teaching English language to prepare its educated citizens.

She also talked about the colleges established in Kuwait to prepare the teacher in various educational levels.

The third speaker was Bader and she tackled certain topics on children and their special needs.

She spoke about the role of special education in teaching retarded children and children of high IQ's, protection of children from abuse, Lebanese war-vic-

tim children and the societies inside Kuwait that co-operate with the rehabilitation and development of the child centre.

Meanwhile, Nasar discussed means of training manpower in Kuwait, developing human cadres through a scientific and technological means, self-education programmes, long-term development programmes to train those wishing to study higher education, and programmes for students at early educational levels.

Sabah spoke about "Education of Woman and its Role in the Development process."

She centred on the role of the state of Kuwait in teaching women, developing women to make her participate in the development process, the state's need of Kuwaiti woman in the development process.

She also indicated to the Kuwaiti government's role in removing all obstacles facing women in the development process by helping her work in various fields.

"Social Care in Kuwait" was the title of Fiza'at's speech, in which he spoke about the history of social care in Kuwait and protection of labourers.

Rumaihi's speech was titled "Kuwait in Thirty Years, and the March of Development of Man."

He talked about the Kuwaiti society, which he described as a "harmonious society" that lives in stability.

He noted modern Kuwait was built on this stability.

He also reviewed Kuwait's development over the past 30 years.

## Kuwait's stance on terrorism lauded

BAGHDAD, Sept. 22, (KUNA). The Iraq News Agency commended Kuwait's firm stand in the face of terrorist threats and blackmail in the course of welcoming the visit on Saturday to Iraq to be paid by HH the Amir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed.

In a report by its Arab Affairs Editor, the agency said that Kuwait's courageous stand in the face of terrorism reflects genuineness of the Kuwaiti people and the Amir.

It recalled the Amir's address to the nation in which he underlined Kuwait's persistence in its principled stance and rejection of attempts at blackmail following the attempt on his life in May 1985.

Reviewing the exchange of visits among Kuwaiti and Iraqi officials, INA indicated that a number of agreements and joint minutes had been signed to bolster all round co-operation between the two countries.

The agency concluded by lauding Kuwait's external policy of neutrality, non-interference in other's affairs and settlement of problems by peaceful means.

Meanwhile, an Iraqi official was quoted yesterday as saying that the outcome of the forthcoming meeting between HH the Amir and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in Baghdad next week will be positive and significant towards boosting Arab solidarity.

Member of Iraq's Revolutionary Command Council and First Deputy Premier Taha Yassin Ramadan told a local daily that HH the Amir's visit will reflect the deep fraternal relations between President Saddam and HH the Amir which strengthened further in the most critical circumstances.

Relations

Asserting the deep historic relations between the two neighbouring states, Ramadan said that the two states have one destiny and one goal, and that the deep relations are strengthening day by day.

On the other hand, another prominent Iraqi official told the daily that the Iraqi Information Ministry will attach great importance to HH the Amir's visit and has prepared special television and radio programmes on deep-rooted relations between the people and the leaders of the two countries, and the Amir's role in the development of Kuwait.

He added that the ministry prepared new songs to welcome the country's great guest, as well as different programmes in this regard.

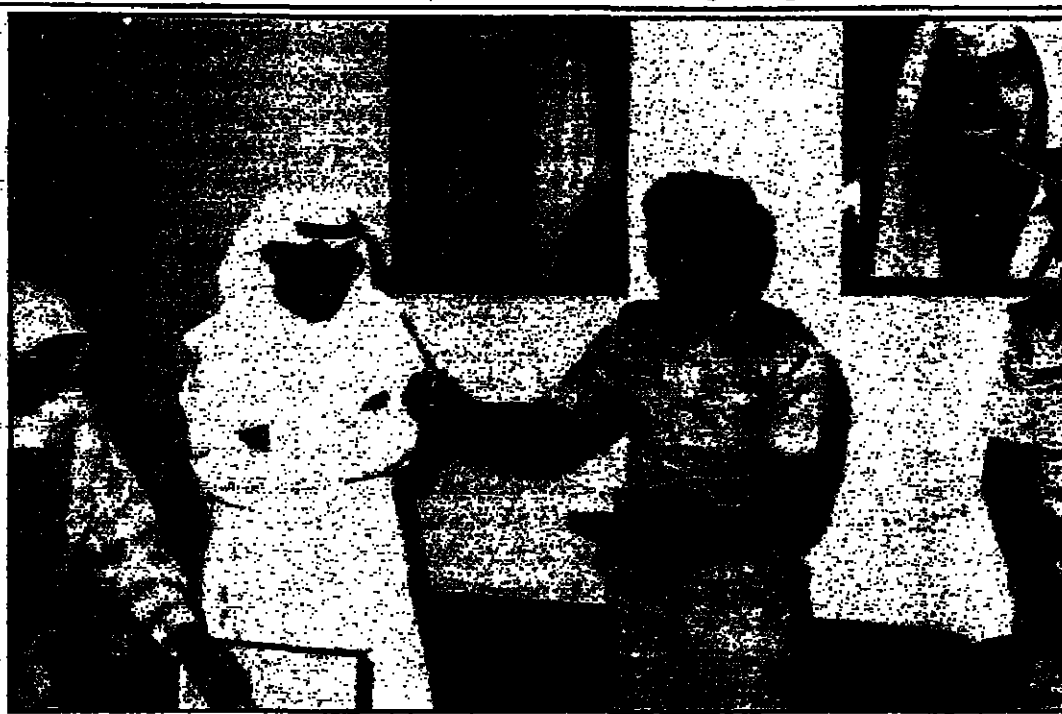
## Every effort to defend Islamic issues, says Jassar

CAIRO, Sept. 22, (KUNA). Kuwait's Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Khaled Al Jassar said today that Kuwait, as the current chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (IOC) spares no effort in defending Islamic issues on all international platforms and resolving problems confronting Muslims all over the world.

Jassar added, at a press conference held on the sidelines of second session of the founding authority of the International Islamic Council for Da'awa (Call) and Relief, that HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Jaber had recently visited Turkey and Bulgaria in an effort to resolve the ethnic dispute which erupted between the two countries over the Muslim minority in Bulgaria.

He indicated that the Islamic Council is a key step toward unifying and co-ordinating scattered Islamic efforts.

Jassar noted that the idea of the council was born following meetings of the Islamic Research Academy last year with a major goal in mind, namely gathering the various Islamic bodies under the banner of Islam.



Mukhlid honoured

The director-general of the Computer Information Centre at the Ministry of Interior Fahd Abdul Karim Jaffer and staff have held a special function in honour of the director-general of the Public Relations Department Col Fahd Khaled Al Mukhlid, former director-general of the centre.

Col Mukhlid was presented with a souvenir to mark the occasion.

## Saudi Arabia executes 16

(Continued from Page 1)

moud Hussein Kazem and Hussein Habib Abbas, 15 years and 1,000 lashes.

The announcement said the defendants, who had been tried before an Islamic court, gave full confessions.

It described the bombings as "an evil crime... an aggression on the sanctity of the holy sites and on the pilgrims... of the entire Muslim nation."

Saudi Arabian officials visited the kingdom in recent weeks, prompting reports that the Saudis had arrested and were interrogating some Kuwaiti pilgrims. But there was no official comment from either government.

The latest contact was a whirlwind trip by Kuwaiti Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Saud Al Osaimeh who relayed a message from the Kuwaiti leadership.

The Interior Ministry said the defendants brought the explosives with them from Kuwait, where they also trained on using them.

It said they held meetings in Kuwait, Makkah and Medina to plan their "aggression." It added that their aim was to spread "terror and fear in the hearts of the pilgrims... and show that the (Saudi Arabia) was unable to protect the house of God."

The Saudi Interior Ministry statement said the bombings in July were perpetrated "at the instructions of the mischievous ones, who are enemies of this nation and for all pilgrims of God's house, and co-operating with those mischievous ones on such debauchery and terrorism in the most sacred spot in the world."

Under the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, Iranian pilgrims tried to turn the haj into a political forum to spread his Islamic fundamentalist teachings.

In 1987, the Iranian contin-

gent clashed with Saudi security forces, leading to the death of 402 pilgrims, most of them Iranians.

The statement indicated that the court followed established judicial procedure and gave each of the defendants complete freedom to defend himself.

It pointed out that after the hearings, the court was convinced of the crime perpetrated by the accused against sanctity of the holy mosque and safety of pilgrims and concluded that a severe punishment should be meted out that would uproot evil and deter corrupts.

The statement renewed firm determination of the Saudi government to protect sanctity of holy shrines, safeguard security of pilgrims and to deal harsh punishment against any person attempting to violate sanctity of the holy places or tamper with the safety of pilgrims or visitors of the kingdom.

Mansour Hasan Abdullah Al Mahmeed, the leader of the Kuwaiti group said before being beheaded in Saudi Arabia that he collected explosives used in the bomb attack from the Iranian embassy in Kuwait.

Mansour Hasan, said in an interview broadcast on Saudi television that he had been summoned by a party leader in Kuwait who told him the plot was "in line with the desires of Iranian government officials."

Mansour, an elementary school teacher, wore a traditional white robe and headpiece and spoke in a measured tone during the broadcast.

He said he had met two Iranian posing as diplomats in Kuwait, who trained his group in planting and detonating explosives.

On June 22, the group collected the explosives from the Iranian embassy in Kuwait after performing the dawn prayers, he added.

Mansour said he had been told by the party leader in Kuwait

that the "aim of this operation is to undermine security in the kingdom to show it is unable to take charge of haj (pilgrimage) affairs and to create panic among the pilgrims."

"Now that I am under arrest, I feel deep regret... because I am a Muslim who committed a sin against God. I repent to God and ask for forgiveness," Mansour said.

Ali Abdullah Hussain Kazem, another of the Kuwaitis, said before execution that two Iranian embassy officials trained them in the use of explosives "in theory and in practice."

"After we returned to the residence we were happy and pleased the mission has been accomplished... we did not believe that the Saudi authorities would arrest us," he added.

Saudi Arabian newspapers said today the 16 Kuwaiti bombers beheaded in Makkah were anti-Muslim puppets but made no reference to any Iranian involvement.

"Those who planted the bombs were puppets in the hands of the enemies of Islam and all Muslims," Al Jazeera newspaper said.

There has been no official reaction from Kuwait.

Iran, has so far withheld comment on the executions although Tehran Radio carried the news yesterday quoting foreign reports.

But the deaths are likely to hinder efforts by Iran's new pragmatic President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani to improve relations with the Gulf states, including Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Arabia's Al Madina newspaper said: "Our eyes will stay open and our arms will be ready to face aggression and punish the aggressors."

Other Gulf papers provided wide coverage of the beheading and confessions but made no editorial comments.

## Makkah bombers confess crime on Saudi television

### Iranian embassy in Kuwait implicated

SIXTEEN Kuwaitis convicted of planting explosives at the Grand Mosque in Saudi Arabia were executed on Thursday and the scene was broadcast the same night by Saudi Arabian Television.

The broadcast included detailed confessions of how the accused smuggled the explosives into Saudi Arabia and planted several near the Grand Mosque.

Confessions indicated that the accused placed several explosives at the same place near the Grand Mosque in a pre-determined move designed to have optimum impact on the largest number of pilgrims.

Each accused spoke of his role in this dastardly act and enumerated below are highlights:

Mansour Hasan Abdullah Al Mahmeed, 32, an elementary school teacher in Riggi area and resident of Rumeithiya, admitted he was the general supervisor of the operation. He said that it began in Kuwait when the leader of the party, Mohammad Baqer Al Mahri called him and told him that in accordance with the wish of the officials in the Iranian government, he had been instructed to form a cell to carry out explosions in Makkah City.

Mahmeed added: "Mahri told me that the purpose of the explosions is to undermine the security apparatus in Saudi Arabia and frighten and demonstrate to pilgrims that Saudi Arabia is incapable of managing pilgrimage affairs."

Mahmeed said that soon after that, he began forming the cell which consisted of 19 persons, the 15 executed (along with him) and the other four who received jail terms. He continued that "we started holding meetings in Kuwait aimed at informing the cell members of the operation and the site where the explosives will be planted."

"Mahri told me to contact two Iranian men, identified as Sadeq Al Reda and Mohammad Reda Ghulam, who claimed that they were members of the Iranian embassy in Kuwait. They were supposed to supply us with the explosives," Mahmeed said and added that the two Iranians trained them on the use of the explosives in the Wafra area, in two sessions.

The first was theory while the second included practical training. He said: "On June 22, soon after the Fajr (dawn) prayer I, Abdul Wahab Baroon and Abdul Aziz Shams went to the Iranian embassy and received the explosive materials from the back door of the building. We took the explosives to the headquarters of the pilgrimage caravan in Kuwait and the two colleagues fixed them under the van's front seats."

Mahmeed said that after that, they headed to Saudi Arabia as part of the pilgrimage caravan and the two colleagues, Shams and Baroon succeeded in smuggling the explosives to Saudi Arabia. When we reached Medina, I and Baroon took out the explosives and hid them within the residence of the caravan. Then we held a meeting to reorient cell members on the modus operandi with the promise to meet again in Makkah. After arriving in Makkah, we held another meeting to exactly determine the role of each member.

Mahmeed added that on July 7, he and Ali Kazem, went on a tour around the Grand Mosque to exactly determine the sites of the explosives. On July 9, all members of the cell were taken to the sites to indicate the explosives sites and to explain the duty of each group, rehearsal day, he termed it. Mahmeed said that on the morning of July 10, we arranged the explosives and Abdul Aziz Shams made the final connections of the circuits. We took out the explosives in four bags and went out of the residence at 6.00 am. I was carrying the explosives. Later we distributed the explosives into three cars and each group headed to the pre-

designated site to plant the explosives. After completing the distribution of the groups, we returned to the caravan residence in Makkah. He said: "Now I feel much regret for the grave mistake I committed because I feel that I committed something wrong against Muslims and the Holy Sites." "I advise young Muslims to keep aloof of all parties and organisations because in the name of Islam they call for evil."

Another executed member, Ali Abdullah Hussain Kazem, 22, a student of English literature, final year at Kuwait University, resident of Bayan area, said that it started when he was invited by Mahmeed to join an organisation called "Marchers of the Path of the Imam." He first asked me the end of 1988 to join the organ-

ing of July 6 and directly went to the caravan residence.

Kazem said that he was told by Mahmeed that the explosives arrived in Makkah. The members held several meetings in the caravan residence in Makkah and at one of the meetings, the members saw the explosives. They were hidden in a metal case on the building roof. He said that he and several other members checked the explosives to ensure nothing was lacking.

Kazem also confirmed the story told by Mahmeed about the meetings held in Makkah, the distribution of the groups, the allocation of the sites and others. He said that the survey of the sites was done just two days before the bombings on Saturday, July 8. One day before the explosions, a meeting was held

Abdul Aziz Hussain Ali Mohammad Shams, 20, studying electrical engineering at Kuwait University, resident of Rumeithiya, said he joined the organisation "Marchers of the Path of the Imam" through a man named Abbas Abdul Rasoul Al Mousawi, who is currently in Iran. He said that the organisation is a branch of Hezbollah. He said that Mousawi introduced him to the two officials of the Iranian embassy in Kuwait. He added that he used to visit the two officials in their spacious flat in Rumeithiya and they provided him with all help and encouraged him to work for the organisation.

Shams said that the two officials assigned him to smuggle TNT to the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia which he did in February, March and June of 1988. He said that he utilised the facilities provided to the GCC citizens and also went there with his family. He said that he received money from one of the officials for taking the explosives.

Role

About his role in the Makkah explosions, he said that two months before the explosions, he was invited by Mahmeed to take part in the operation when he met him at the headquarters of the pilgrimage caravan. He said that they held several meetings in Kuwait during which Mahmeed explained to them that the main object of the operation was to disrupt Hajj, frighten pilgrims and show that Saudi authorities were unable to control the Hajj and protect holy sites, all serving Iran. He said that Mahmeed offered him money and other benefits after the success of the operation. He confessed receiving the explosives through the back door of the Iranian embassy in Kuwait on the dawn of June 22. He also said that he hid the explosives under the front seat of the van used to travel to Saudi Arabia. After arriving in Medina he took out the explosives and handed them over to Mahmeed. He added that in Medina, he held several meetings to discuss the plans. He said that in Makkah and after forming the groups, he was appointed assistant to the leader of the second group which planted one of the explosives in the Grand Mosque. He confessed making all the necessary connections for the explosives in the presence of several members of the cell.

Shams also said that he drove one of the three cars that was used by the cell members on the day of planting the explosives. He said that after arriving at the designated site, he went down with the explosives and after making sure that the place was empty, he planted the explosive and pressed the button. He said he then went back to the car and drove back to the residence. He said: "After planting the explosives, we felt relieved and happy after the long period of tension." He said that before the arrest, we were preparing to go back to Kuwait to receive the award. Now I realised that what I did was totally wrong.

Abdul Wahab Hussain Ali Baroon, another executed member, 22, an elementary teacher, resident of Dahiyat Abdulla Al Salem, said he joined the organisation in Kuwait in January 1989 at the insistence of Mahmeed. He also said that he was trained by two Iranians in Wafra area and described how he took part in planting the explosives. Saudi TV also showed confessions of the rest of the group, who consisted of 20 men.

Meanwhile, relatives of some of the Kuwaitis who were acquitted expressed relief and happiness. They said that they had no news about their relatives after leaving Kuwait to perform Hajj, until they came to know that a number of Kuwaitis were detained for questioning in relation with the Grand Mosque explosions. They added that they had no news until they heard the names of their relatives among the acquitted nine through Kuwait Radio.

## Third HPC session postponed to Oct 18

THE secretary-general of the Higher Planning Council Fuad Mulla Hussein said today that the first meeting of the 3rd session of the council will be postponed from October 4th to October 18th, 1989. An Amiri decree issued in May 1987 limited membership of the council to only three years. The 3rd session to be opened next month will be the third year for present members of the council.

He said that the Public Policies Committee, Population Policies and Resources Development Committee, Social Services Committee, and Economic Committee completed a number of specialised studies and researches in social, and economic fields. The committees submitted their proposals and recommendations to the council which referred them to the Council of Ministers after approving them during the 2nd session.

The Population Policies and Manpower Resources Development Committee will complete a study to provide a comprehensive strategy to develop national manpower resources during this year. The social services committee will also complete its study on modern behavioural aspect of Kuwait society. The committee will also discuss the final report prepared by the committee in relation to effects of maids and babysitters on Kuwaiti families and a report on ways to give more concern to the family, he said.

The secretary-general of HPC expected that the next session of the council will complete the study about the role of private sector and the future of housing services in Kuwait. He also expected that a study on future strategy of the financial sector will be completed during this session. The committees of the council will continue their work to study and review the annual and semi-annual reports on the present Five-Year Plan during the coming session. The economic committee will also study the draft budgets of ministries.

## Day of Arab child, Oct 2

TEN years after celebrating the International Year of the Child, Kuwait and Arab countries will celebrate the "Day of the Arab Child" on October 2, 1989.

The celebrations will be under the banner of "Child's rights," chairman of the Kuwaiti National Committee to celebrate the event and Assistant Under-secretary of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour for Youth Affairs Abdul Rahman Al Mazroui said.

The celebrations this year are the concern of the Arab and international childhood organisations who are primarily concerned in following up and evaluating efforts undertaken to emphasise the care provided to children the world over.

This year's celebration is an occasion to increase efforts to ensure that children are guaranteed their rights to breast-feeding, right of play, education, right of expression, right of being loved and cherished and looked after the official said.



## ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

MEN hate those to whom they have to lie — Victor Hugo, French writer (1802-1885).

## OPINION

## Iraqi victory: an Arab one

TODAY is the day of the meeting of Kuwaiti and Iraqi leaderships.

The Kuwaiti leadership visualises the country to be partners in the Iraqi victory in the aftermath of the Iran-Iraq war. Additionally, the Kuwaiti leadership is of the firm opinion that Baghdad is the geographic extension of the Gulf gate — through which prosperity can be restored to this region.

A victorious leadership bent on moving in the right direction can move their people towards the right channels of frankness and co-operation.

Baghdad's Army firmly stood against foreign invading forces and demonstrated that they were simply executing orders of the victorious leader who was well aware of the fact that Baghdad's steadfastness against the invasion was more of an Arab duty than an Iraqi one.

Iraq in that war represented the eastern gate of the Arab world which the invaders wanted to penetrate. Iraq's Army, people and leadership, bravely withstood for eight long and difficult years sacrificing many martyrs and their beloved country.

The Kuwaiti leadership is well aware of this fact and did not hesitate to stand firm in backing Iraq and Arab rights. Although the Kuwaiti leadership's intention was not to cause any disturbance — yet at the same time it never wanted to bargain on its right principles.

Iraq certainly has many issues that engage the thinking of its leadership towards economic, political and military construction, while Kuwait on the other hand needs many things to work for — whether jointly or in an open door policy that allows individuals of both countries opportunities of joint co-operation.

The Jaber-Saddam summit is certainly attracting both official and popular attention. It will undoubtedly brush aside any doubt towards the two countries' relations, which the opponents of the region do not wish to flourish. The meeting of the victorious Iraqi leadership and the Kuwaiti leadership, pleased over the victory, is certainly very important particularly for those who have so long been waiting for.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

## Salvageable salvaged

## Bunker bandits plague Beirutis

AS THOUGH six months of shelling and shortages weren't enough misery, Beirutis have to contend with a new threat — bunker bandits.

Bands of gunmen prowl the streets of Muslim West Beirut at night, cleaning out apartments that have been hit in the artillery battles between the Syrians and Christian forces since early March.

They take anything that is salvageable — Persian carpets, television sets, video recorders, silverware.

It's not unusual to hear the crackle of automatic weapons at night as the gunmen fire in the air to keep people away from the scenes of their depredations.

They also prey on civilians huddling in basement shelters during the shelling because many people take along their savings and jewellery when they go underground.

One gang of masked gunmen robbed six families in the bunker beneath their apartment block in west Beirut's Aishe Bakkar neighbourhood one recent night.

"I don't know how they managed to get in during the shelling," said one of the victims, Mohammed Abu-Samir, a middle-aged Sunni Muslim taxi driver.

"They just ordered us to hand over our jewellery, money and watches, and we had to do as they said," he said. "I don't know which is the worst, getting robbed in our own shelter or the shelling."

The number of robbery reports has eased in recent weeks because some 1.3 million of Beirut's 1.5 million people have fled to safer areas to escape the nightly bombings that have killed more than 900 people and wounded nearly 2,800 since March 8.

But the thousands of abandoned apartments make easy pickings. Some Beirutis now take pistols to their shelters as protection against the looters.

The mass exodus from Beirut has stranded hundreds of Sri Lankan maids, left by their employers to guard their apartments and houses when the families fled.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

1526 — Cremona, Italy, surrenders to duke of Urbino, in command of army of Swiss mercenaries, Venetians and soldiers from the papal states.

1642 — Conspiracy in France by Henry, Marquis de Cinq-Mars, who signs secret treaty with Spain but is discovered by Cardinal Richelieu and executed.

1779 — US Admiral John Paul Jones defeats British warship Countess of Scarborough.

1803 — British force under Arthur Wellesley defeats Sindia of Gwalior at Assaye in India; British force takes Dutch Guinea.

1817 — Spain signs treaty with Britain to end slave trade.

1912 — Chinese government declines six-power loan in favour of one from Birch, Crisp and Company of London.

1914 — Dueseldorf is target of first British air command in Germany in World War I.

1951 — United Nations forces capture "Heartbreak Ridge" in Korea from communists.

1956 — Britain and France submit Suez Canal dispute to UN Security Council.

1957 — Romania's request to join Balkan Pact is refused by Greece.

1972 — Martial law is declared in Philippines by President Ferdinand Marcos.

1973 — Former Argentine dictator Juan Peron is returned to power in Buenos Aires in presidential election.

1978 — Egypt's President Anwar Sadat returns home to hero's welcome after Camp David summit that resulted in agreement on framework for peace with Israel.

1987 — Zambia's President Kenneth Kaunda pleads with Chad and Libya to maintain ceasefire.

1988 — Rival Muslim and Christian governments threaten Lebanon with formal partition.

## Gorbachev shuffles cards

Conservatives still strong

SOVIET leader Mikhail Gorbachev, already President and Communist Party chief, emerged on Thursday with new authority as the longest-serving member of the Kremlin's ruling politburo.

But despite a second successive "autumn purge" of hardliners which strengthened his reformist hand, Gorbachev must still steer a wary course between the right and left of the power structure, Soviet and foreign analysts said.

Sceptical reaction among many ordinary Muscovites to Wednesday's changes at the top — "who cares unless it puts more food in the shops?" was a typical comment — left no doubt there would be no easing of popular discontent.

With what a senior diplomat described as "consummate political skill," Gorbachev steered a two-day meeting of the party's policy-setting Central Committee this week into clearing the way for faster economic and political reform.

The 250-member committee, still a largely conservative body despite a huge clear-out of old-timers in April this year, approved the removal of hardliners Viktor Chebrikov and Vladimir Shcherbitsky from the politburo.

And, in what Soviet sources said was a compromise between Gorbachev and uneasy representatives of the powerful communist apparatus whose position has been shaken by his "perestroika" programme, the next party congress was set for October 1990.

According to these sources the Kremlin chief had wanted the congress — which alone can bring the new blood he says he wants into the Central Committee — next spring. Opponents argued that it should take place as scheduled in early 1991.

Shcherbitsky, the Ukrainian party chief, had been the longest-serving member of the Kremlin's inner cabinet which he entered as a protégé of now disgraced Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev in 1971, nine years before Gorbachev.

Chebrikov, another close Brezhnev associate and former chief of the KGB security police, entered the politburo in April 1985, a month after Gorbachev became party leader and tentatively outlined a blueprint to reshape Soviet society.

Both Soviet insiders and foreign analysts said Chebrikov's departure, and what will be his inevitable replacement as head of a key party commission on legal affairs, was the central element of the shake-up.

During August, with Gorbachev on leave in the south, Chebrikov had appeared to be setting a hardline political agenda even outmanoeuvring Yegor Ligachev, widely regarded as the politburo's leading conservative.

Some Soviet officials suggested he played a major role in drafting a Central Committee statement in late August bitterly condemning both local communist leaders and separatists in the three restive Baltic republics.

Also dropped from the politburo was Viktor Nikonov, a burly agricultural specialist who was reputed a moderate Gorbachev supporter and had shared responsibility for the ailing farming sector for the past year with Ligachev.

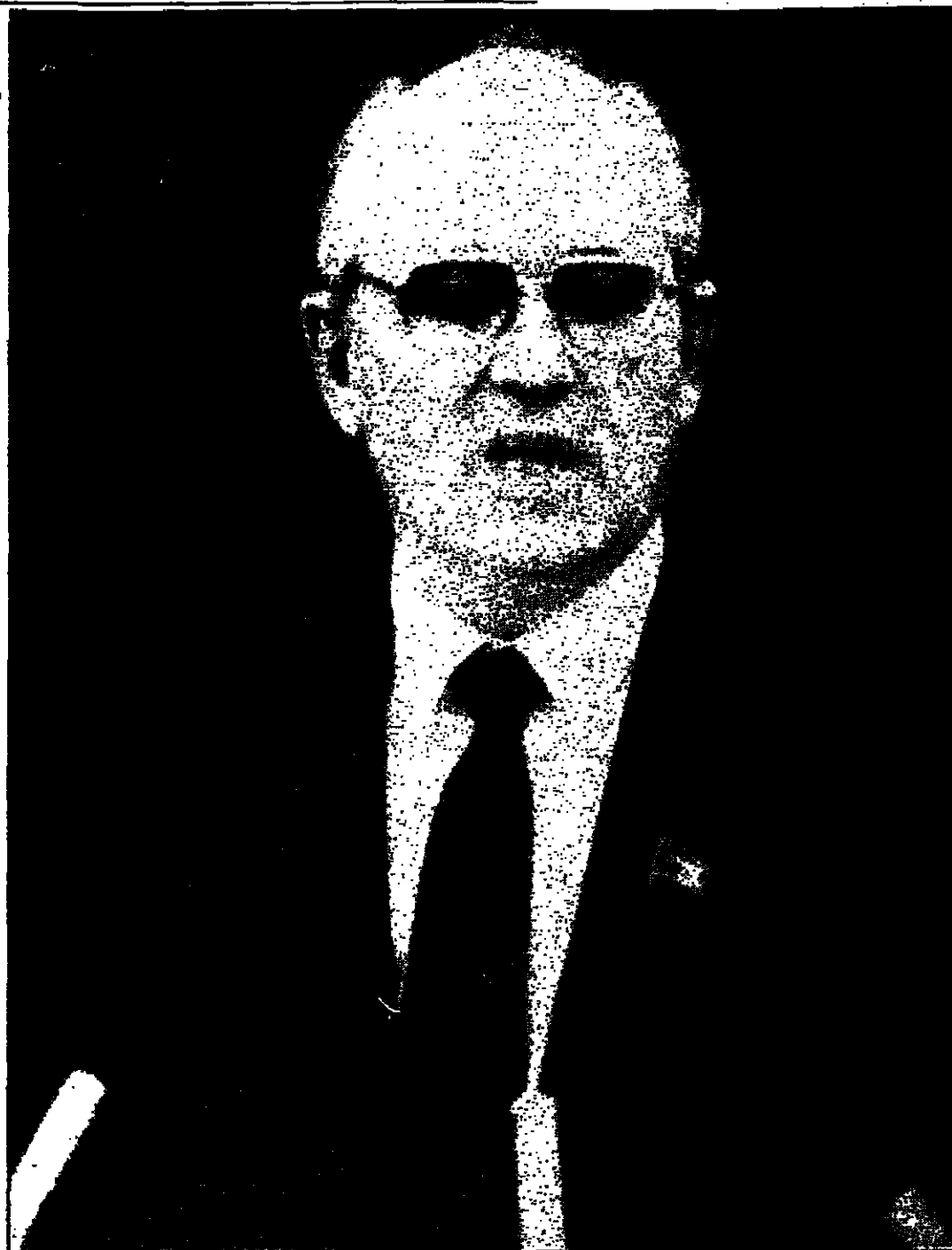
The committee meeting this week was nominally called to discuss ways to increase the political and economic autonomy of the Soviet Union's 15 republics as part of a bid to contain rising nationalism and inter-ethnic strife.

But although Gorbachev moved quickly to cool the situation around the Baltic problem on his return to centre-stage in Moscow early this month, he himself spoke out angrily against calls for secession in the region.

"His vehemence against the separatists, in the Baltics and elsewhere, is a measure of his fear that if they push their demands too hard it will give new strength to the hardliners who want to halt reform altogether," said one Soviet insider.

Although the Central Committee approved Gorbachev's changes at the top, speaker after speaker including politburo member Vitaly Vorotnikov and Byelorussian party chief Yefrem Sokolov railed against "anarchy" and "extremism."

"Gorbachev has been very successful so far with his salami tactics of reducing the conservative strength at the top step by step," said one senior foreign diplomat. "But he knows he cannot go too fast or



Mikhail Gorbachev: new authority

they will turn on him."

Following are profiles of two new full members of the Soviet politburo named on Wednesday.

Vladimir Kryuchkov (born Feb 29, 1924). A KGB officer for the past 22 years and head of the state security police since October 1988, Kryuchkov has presided over a campaign to put a more human face on the security apparatus.

More and more, the once-sective agency has publicised its efforts to combat organised crime, international terrorism and corruption, playing down any role it has in the suppression of dissent within the Soviet Union.

Last week the KGB screened a documentary film for foreign journalists casting its officers in sympathetic roles. During parliamentary hearings to confirm his appointment, Kryuchkov said he fully backed President Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms.

"I am most positive about it and believe it is necessary for our body," he told deputies. His promotion as a full politburo member without briefly serving as a non-voting or "candidate" member, marks a spectacular promotion for the silver-haired KGB chief.

One of the men he replaced on the ruling Soviet Communist Party's politburo was former KGB boss Viktor Chebrikov.

Before being named to the party's ruling circle, Kryuchkov was a rank-and-file member of the party's policy-making Central Committee. He holds

the military rank of Colonel-General.

Born in Volgograd in 1924, Kryuchkov was educated at a legal affairs institute and the Foreign Ministry's higher diplomatic school. During an interview on the Leningrad Television Channel, Kryuchkov said he was an avid reader and theatre-goer.

According to his official biography, Kryuchkov served some time between 1954 to 1959 as a third secretary at the Soviet embassy in Hungary, a post which Western analysts usually consider to be set aside for the resident KGB representative.

Yuri Masluykov (born Dec 30, 1937).

Masluykov, as chairman of the Central Planning Agency Gosplan, has had the task of injecting the relative efficiency and quality of military industries into the consumer sector.

But he has emerged as a cautious reformer, and deputies to the revamped Soviet parliament recently charged that the giant Gosplan was lagging behind the reformist times.

Masluykov, an ethnic Russian, has also displayed a careful line on regional autonomy, clashing this summer with reformist economist Leonid Abalkin over a plan for greater economic freedom for the Soviet Union's 15 constituent republics.

An engineer with specialist knowledge of military hardware, Masluykov replaced the maverick Boris Yeltsin as a non-voting politburo member in February 1988. (Moscow — Reuters)

## Peace formula eludes mediators

MEDIATORS have failed to find a peace formula in the ethnic and territorial conflict between Senegal and Mauritania, but regional analysts say the risk of war appears diminished.

Senegal abruptly broke diplomatic relations a month ago with its impoverished Sahelian neighbour, deepening the crisis which has killed an estimated 500 people in both countries.

The two sides have kept up sabre-rattling ever since.

"Military leaders on both sides seem to realise that war would be mutually catastrophic," said a Western diplomat who follows developments in the region.

In strategic terms, both sides would run out of ammunition very quickly. They don't even have a bridge over the Senegal River which separates them so troop mobility would be difficult," he added.

The analysts said the most important problem now appeared to be how to reduce the bitterness and radical hostility between the populations of the two countries, both former French colonies.

An emissary of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), was due to brief the French government on Friday on Egypt's unsuccessful mediation mission, mandated by the pan-African body.

Mauritania's vast desert territory straddles Arab

and black Africa and light-skinned Moors dominate its tiny population of about two million.

Its black population, concentrated near the border with Senegal, has always accused the Moors of political domination. Clashes killed more than 200 people in Mauritania last spring.

After revenge killings of Mauritians in Dakar, more than 170,000 Mauritians were evacuated from Senegal, which in turn took back about 70,000 of its own citizens from Nouakchott.

A territorial dispute over the Senegal River, which forms a natural border between the two states, remains at the core of the current conflict.

But analysts said the burning issue now is the large number of people displaced on both sides and the property they lost.

"There must be some legal recourse over the property," one analyst said.

Government sources in Paris said Mubarak's envoy, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali, would seek initiatives from France on salvaging Mubarak's peace efforts.

On his first major task as OAU chairman, Mubarak visited the two countries, but his talks there did not succeed in ending the standoff between Dakar and Nouakchott, official sources said.

"The talks did not go very deep when Mubarak

came face to face with the depth of feeling on both sides," a diplomat said.

The Egyptian leader is expected in France on Sept 27 for talks with President Francois Mitterrand at which the African conflict will be a central topic, French officials said.

Mubarak travels to New York from Paris to attend the United Nations General Assembly where he will meet on Oct 5 with five African foreign ministers on an OAU committee charged with the Senegal-Mauritania crisis.

Militarily, Senegal looks clearly the superior force in the region. Its army of about 8,000 is small but adequately equipped and has gained useful experience in the UN force in Lebanon.

Mauritania's army has not recovered credibility it lost when it pulled out of the Western Sahara where it had teamed with Morocco to fight Polisario guerrillas on their joint territory.

The Senegalese government has faced fierce challenges at home after contentious elections on February 1988. Analysts have said it could seek national consensus by waging a diversionary war.

But with an economy in shambles and tension over territorial claims or relations with other neighbours, even the most ardent warmongers would appear hesitant to fire the first shot. (Paris — Reuters)

## Papandreou dragged down by scandals

ANDREAS PAPANDREOU, the Greek socialist

former prime minister, was ordered by Parliament on Wednesday to stand trial on illegal telephone tapping charges just three months after he was ousted from office.

Papandreou, 70, a charismatic but unpredictable politician, lost his June re-election bid after becoming mired in scandals.

He had dominated Greek politics for eight years after his Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok) won a landslide victory in 1981 and swept him into power as the country's first socialist leader.

His fierce anti-American rhetoric and promises to shut US military bases won him a second term in 1985 but his fortunes turned sour in August 1988.

He was rushed to London for open-heart surgery, went public with an extra-marital affair and was savaged for his handling of a 200-million-dollar bank embezzlement scandal.

Papandreou divorced two days before elections

on June 18 and said he would marry Olympic

Airways stewardess Dimitra Liani, 34.

Voters handed him a crushing defeat and his Pasok party was cut from 161 to 125 seats in the 300-seat Parliament.

The conservatives and communists formed an odd-couple coalition government in July with the aim of lifting immunity from criminal prosecution for former socialist ministers accused of wrongdoing.

Parliament will vote next week on whether Papandreou should also be tried on charges of complicity in the bank scandal.

Born into a prominent Athens family, Papandreou embraced radical left-wing politics while attending Athens University Law School.

Jailed, tortured and banished for his left-wing activities in the 1930s by the dictatorship of General

Ioannis Metaxas, he emigrated to the United States in

1939.

He became a US citizen and a member of the establishment, with a Harvard degree, before returning to Greece in 1959.

He renounced his US citizenship and was elected to Parliament in 1964. His father, George, was the prime minister.

Greece plunged into political turmoil in 1965 and the military seized power in 1967. Papandreou was jailed for eight months and sent into exile where he sowed the seeds for Pasok.

When military rule collapsed in July 1974, he returned and began rallying various left-wing factions to his Pasok banner.

A fiery populist speaker, he seized on anti-American feelings and promised to send the US military home — a promise he never fulfilled.

His maverick foreign policy exasperated Western

## Intifada: anger, violence, indignity

TWO soldiers with submachine guns waved their arms and shouted, ordering a woman and her three teenage children to slap paint on a white stone wall to cover anti-Israeli graffiti.

Down the street, Israeli tax agents dragged furniture from a home in lieu of unpaid taxes. In nearby Beit Jala, troops searched house to house for a stone thrower who injured an Israeli soldier. In the Gaza Strip, shops in Gaza city were shut for a second day to protest the killing of a 21-year-old man by soldiers.

Thursday was another day in the intifada, the Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip that has sometimes raged and sometimes sputtered for more than 21 months.

It is the deaths that draw headlines. But the uprising is made up of thousands of tiny incidents: stones thrown at soldiers, checkpoints thrown up by troops, tax or arrest raids, outlawed Palestinian flags flown from telephone wires.

According to the Army, there have been more than 33,000 instances of stone-throwing and burning of tyres in the past year. That doesn't include the 756 firebombings, the 130 knifings or other serious assaults, or the 345 cases of arson.

"These numbers show the uprising is still going on," says a military officer who agreed to discuss the current tone of the revolt on the basis of anonymity.

"The intensity is not what it comes was, it's lost a lot of its volume," said the officer, but he added the violence can flare up at any moment.

"You have ups and downs," he said. "It can be affected by rumours, by factors even outside the country, not just what the Army does or people in the community do."

The officer maintained the Army did everything it could to prevent its own raids to arrest uprising activists from inciting more violence, but he added: "Obviously there's an animosity to Army presence."

An uprising leader, asked about the level of the intifada, judged it this way: "the youngsters throw stones, of course. That's no secret, and we have our daily battles with the settlers."

The man, an organiser for the Syrian-backed Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, said Jewish settlers often fired back at stone-throwing youngsters or smashed Arab-owned cars in revenge.

What caused bigger demonstrations? He was asked.

"It's the street," he said. "It's not just dozens of youngsters. The street, the people are ready to co-operate, sometimes the anger builds and it happens."

The street did not explode on Thursday, but the intifada also did not stop.

In the Gaza Strip, seven youths were reported shot by soldiers in clashes with stone throwers. One confrontation was in the Jabalya refugee camp, where the uprising started on Dec 8, 1987.

Since then, 573 Palestinians have been killed by soldiers or Jewish civilians, and 40 Israelis also have been slain. At least 114 Palestinians have been killed by fellow Arabs as alleged collaborators.

Also Thursday, stores shut in Gaza city to mark the death of Omar Ahmed Mansour, who threw a firebomb at an Israeli patrol on Tuesday. In Beit Jala, in the West Bank, the Army ordered all residents to stay off the streets while soldiers searched through houses for suspects in the stoning of a soldier a day earlier.

In Bethlehem, a parked Israeli tourist bus was firebombed in Manger Square, near where Jesus is believed to have been born. It was gutted, but no one was hurt. Soldiers closed off the square, and Arab reports said 50 youths were rounded up for questioning.

In neighbouring Beit Sahour, a stronghold of the uprising's boycott of Israeli taxes, soldiers escorted revenue agents who are seizing truckloads of property from homes and businesses to demand payment for taxes.

Other soldiers ordered anti-Israeli graffiti painted over, pulling people out of houses to do the work. But the streets here and throughout the West Bank are clear testimony that the Army cannot win its battle against graffiti.

Slogans painted over dozens of times reappear in bright colours. One slogan on a Beit Sahour garbage bin said simply "Stamir's offence," referring to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. Another said, "Anybody who pays taxes will be punished."

At a small grocery, friends of Kamal Tawfik Abu Saada, 40, were consoling him over the loss of a refrigerator display case hauled off by the tax raiders. Abu Saada said the unit had cost him about \$5,000.

He admitted he refused to pay taxes. "It only goes to the Army. I will never pay. It's impossible."

Raji, 55, who refused to give his last name, said soldiers and tax men took carpets, his furniture, a video and television set from his house. He chuckled over the framed map of Palestine that the tax men ignored.

"They only wanted the furniture," he said. "They want to punish Beit Sahour." (West Bank — AP)

## Quote me

"I'm not a spy. I am just dropped in a trap. I am not guilty. I know I work for America, but today nobody believes me." — Hussein Yildirim, 61, Turkish national said after being sentenced to life imprisonment for turning over US military secrets to East bloc agents.

"They remind me rather of a couple who have decided to stay together for the sake of the kids. They don't really like each other, but they have decided to make go of it." — A Western diplomat based in Morocco summing up Spanish-Moroccan relations.

"I think a fixed link between your country and my country will really be an extraordinary thing because it will allow three continents to be linked: Europe to Asia through Turkey and Africa to Europe across the Straits of Gibraltar." — King Hassan of Morocco, to Spanish interviewers on the feasibility of linking Africa with Europe by means of a bridge over, or tunnel under, the Straits of Gibraltar.

"I will be the winner by KO. When he stops clowning around and starts fighting, that will be the end." — Panamanian Roberto Duran on his impending fight with Sugar Ray Leonard of the US.

"I was in tip-top shape physically, but I wasn't OK mentally. It was a no-win situation, because everyone expected me to knock him out in one round. The motivation was not there. That wasn't me out there against the drawing board, back to the basics, to get in total focus this time." — Sugar Ray Leonard contrasting his Thomas Hearns fight with his upcoming bout against Roberto Duran in December.



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

Delegation woos investors

## Essar Gujarat spreads its wings

By M.C. Bose  
Business editor

### Dollar mostly higher

#### Gold gains

LONDON, Sept. 22. (Agencies): The US dollar closed mostly higher against major European currencies today. Gold was up.

The dollar closed higher in Frankfurt at 1.9450 German marks against Thursday's closing at 1.9438, in Zurich at 1.6885 Swiss francs against 1.6835, and in Brussels at 40.83 Belgian francs against 40.79.

In Paris, the dollar closed lower at 6.5720 French francs against 6.5825 and was lower also in Milan, closing at 1,401.15 lire against 1,402.70.

In London, the pound closed lower at \$1.5755 against \$1.5800. Gold closed higher in Zurich at \$365.00 per ounce against \$363.00 per ounce at Thursday's closing and was higher also in London, at \$365.25 against \$363.50 per ounce.

Silver closed higher in Zurich at \$5.25 per ounce against \$5.15 per ounce, and was higher also in London, at \$5.26 per ounce against \$5.15 per ounce at Thursday's closing.

US consumer spending rose 0.9 per cent in August, its biggest advance in four months, while personal incomes edged up 0.4 per cent for their ninth consecutive advance, the Commerce Department reported today.

Americans' savings rate, saving as a per cent of disposable income, fell 6.7 per cent, down from July's 1.7 per cent increase.

The Indian investment market is set for a new era of growth, with a number of mega issues, led by the Essar Group, hitting the market this month.

The Rs4060 million Essar Gujarat's issue, known as "Essar Steel Bonds," which opened on September 18, and closes on October 3, for Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), has several unique features. Of the entire issue amount, Rs600 million is set aside for NRIs, the rest goes to existing shareholders (on Rights basis), group companies and employees (Rs600 million) and the Indian public (Rs1400 million).

Each debenture has a face value of Rs180, convertible in two stages—in June 1990 and June 1992, into four equity shares at an average maximum price of Rs45 each. Incidentally, the current book value of the share is Rs45 and it is traded in the country's premium stock exchange at Bombay at Rs70 plus. The script has shown a steady appreciation since April.

The company has made bank loan and even credit card arrangements with leading banks to facilitate investors. The loans are repayable in easy instalments spread over three years. For instance, the purchasing of 100 debentures would require Rs30,000 as application money and the amount due on allotment could be paid from bank loans. "This facility would encourage the investors to apply for larger number of debentures," G. Subramanyam, general manager (corporate finance) told the Arab Times.

Each debenture carries a novel "tradeable warrant" which entitles the holder to apply for an equity share at any time between 4th and 5th year of the date of allotment. The share value is to be determined by the Controller of Capital Issues (CCI), but it will not exceed Rs70. The warrants are to be listed in the stock exchanges, plus SBI Capital Markets

Limited, and Canara Bank Financial Services have also agreed to trade them.

This unique instrument should prove to be a real boon for the investor.

Another novelty is a "loyalty" coupon of Rs10 that goes with each debenture as an incentive to the shareholders who retain their shares after two conversions for the first three years. The coupon entitles the investors to get the shares at a price lesser by Rs2.50 per share.

Subramanyam said Essar Gujarat is floating the mega issue to part finance its export-oriented steel plant which will have a capacity of 800,000 tonnes per annum. The group is known for its ability to spot new areas of growth, particularly in high-tech, and implement them on time. It has profitably operated its shipping fleet even when the industry reeled under recession, maintained its lead in offshore and onshore oil and gas exploration in the country's private sector.

Essar has set up the world's largest hot briquetted sponge iron plant which is expected to go on stream early next year. The plant is bound to prove to be profitable since the demand for sponge iron is on the rise. In a carefully planned move, Essar is now setting up the world's largest gas based hot briquetted sponge iron plant in Gujarat. Among the many firms credited to the brothers, this plant will also be a pioneering venture of sorts.

Close on the heels of their successes in areas of shipping, offshore construction and oil exploration the Essar group is looking at several new opportunities as an ongoing process.

The first step in this direction is the crystallization of the company's steel plant at Hazira (which is approx. 400 kms north of Bombay along the Western coast).

With the completion of this project, the Essar group will have laid a firm foundation in making its presence felt in the core segment (by setting up the second largest steel



Subramanyam (third from left) pictured with other participants during the conference at the Holiday Inn.

plant in the private sector in India). This will entrench the group firmly on the fast track of the Indian corporate scene.

The diversification into the steel sector marks the entry of the group into another key area. In the first phase, a sponge iron plant with an installed capacity of 800,000 tonnes per annum is expected to be commissioned by February next year, at least four months ahead of schedule.

The sponge iron plant, when commissioned, will be the largest gas based plant in the world. The manufacturing process is based on the proven Midrex technology.

With the commissioning of the sponge iron plant round the corner, the group is all set to start the second phase of the expansion programme. The planned expansion is designed to be symbiotic with the existing business.

Hazira. The new unit will manufacture high-quality, high-grade hot rolled steel coils (HRC) and will export 100 per cent of its production. Market surveys conducted by the company indicate that there is a vast potential for the export of HRC to neighbouring countries. These findings are confirmed by government experts. The domestic market is also very buoyant.

Moreover, according to government policy, an export oriented unit can also sell its production to an Indian unit provided that unit holds a valid import licence.

The HRC project, including a captive sponge iron plant, will involve an outlay of Rs14 billion. In order to part-finance the project, the company entered the capital market with an issue of 21.82 million convertible debentures of the face value of Rs200 each. These debentures will carry an interest rate of 12.5 per cent per annum.

The debentures will be offered to the existing shareholders, employees of Essar Gujarat, Group companies, non-resident Indians and the general public.

Subramanyam said the debenture-holding pattern will be as under: NRI's 17.8 per cent; existing shareholders and employees of Essar Gujarat 45.2 per cent and general public 37.0 per cent.

The present issue will mobilise a sum of Rs4065 million for the company. The balance will be raised by way of term loans, both in rupee currency as well as foreign currency.

The existing shareholders will be offered, on a rights basis, convertible debentures of the face value of Rs200 each. Each debenture will comprise of two parts — A & B.

Part A representing a face value of Rs80 will be converted on June 1, 1990 into two equity shares of Rs10 each, at a premium of Rs30 per share.

equity shares on June 1, 1992, at a premium to be decided by the Controller of Capital Issues.

Each convertible debenture will comprise of two parts — part A and B.

Part A, which is of the face value of Rs80, will be converted on June 1, 1990, into two equity shares of Rs10 each, at a premium of Rs30 per share.

The conversion of Part B of the face value of Rs100 will take place on June 1, 1992 into two equity shares at such premium as may be approved by the Controller of Capital Issues at the time of conversion.

The HRC plant will be set up adjacent to the sponge iron plant that is expected to be commissioned early next year. It is expected to go on stream by early 1992.

Being a 100 per cent export oriented unit, the company is eligible for several fiscal incentives. Capital equipment, for instance, imported by the company will not attract import duty. There will be no tax liability whatsoever on its profits.

The group companies viz. Essar Shipping and Essar Gujarat have done very well over the years. While the former is currently quoted at Rs28, the latter is quoted at Rs90.

Essar Shipping has consistently paid dividend of 20 per cent in each of the three years ever since the company went public in 1985. Essar Gujarat, on the other hand, paid a dividend of 35 per cent of the second year in succession after the first issue of equity shares in February 1988.

"Making things that people want for ever" — this is the essence of the philosophy of the Essar Group of units, one of the fastest growing industrial chains of the developing economy of India.

Essar gets its gas from Bombay High offshore fields in the Arabian Sea and when the plant goes on stream early next year, it will supply inputs for mini steel plants. The unit has assured clientele within 400 kms radius, where scores of mini steel plants are located.

800,000-odd tonnes per annum, is based on the state-of-the-art process-technology from Midrex Corporation (USA). Its technical collaborators are Voest Alpine, Austria.

The Company now proposes to set up a steel project costing over Rs14,000 million for which nine international giants are bidding. Nippon, Kokan Thyssen, British Steel and Voest Alpine are among those who are keen to bag the project. Metchem Canada, which has done the initial feasibility study, is also in the race with the support of its US-based parent company, USS.

With Essar receiving a letter of intent to set up the export-oriented steel project, Mitsui of Japan showed its keenness to supply equipment and make marketing arrangements for the finished product, the demand for which is on the rise.

The other global giants in the race for the project are: Pohang Iron and Steel Company (South Korea), ESTS BV Hoogovens group of Holland, and Hamburger Stahlwerke of Federal Republic of Germany.

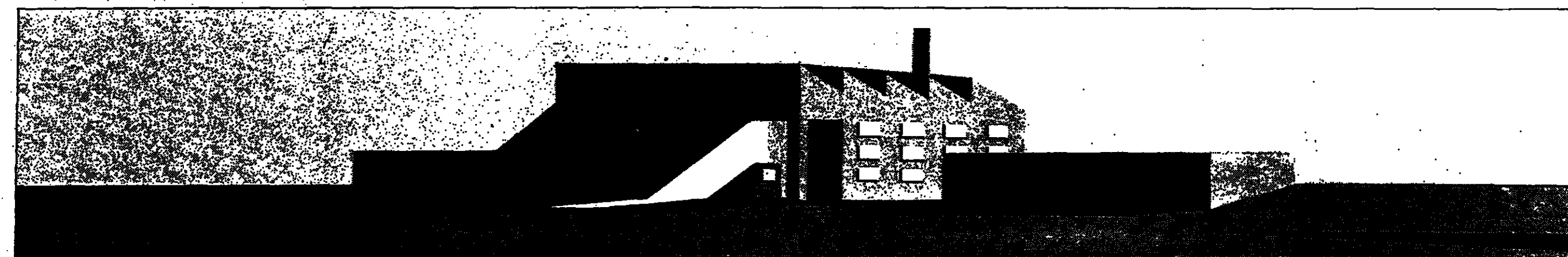
As per the official rules, Essar can sell one-fourth of its production, and export the remaining against import licences to Indian companies.

The group also proposes to set up an oil refinery with the state-owned Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) which has shown in the tie-up mainly because of Essar's capability in resource mobilisation. Its all four public issues so far have been a resounding success.

A four-member delegation, currently visiting Kuwait, said resident issue has been oversubscribed. The delegation consists of Subramanyam, Arun Mathur, manager of Grindlays Bank, M.G. Pinto, project executive of SBI Capital Markets Limited and Darshan Mehta of Trikaya Grey Advertising (India) Limited.

The delegation organised an investors conference at the Kuwait Holiday Inn on Thursday. The meeting was largely attended.

# WE CAN'T THINK OF ONE GOOD REASON TO INVEST IN ESSAR'S RS.14000 MILLION STEEL PROJECT.



As a matter of fact, there are 10 good reasons to invest in Essar.

**ONE** When you invest in Essar Gujarat, you're investing in a group with a proven track record.

A group that's created a name for itself in just 5 years with two successful ventures — Essar Gujarat and Essar Shipping.

A group with a gross block of over Rs.6800 million and net worth of Rs.2000 million.

A group that has already successfully proven itself in that gruelling battlefield — shipping.

Essar Shipping is one of the few companies to come out of the shipping crisis not just unscathed, but prosperous.

**TWO** Essar Gujarat Limited, a profit making company with a turnover of Rs.509 million, is already a major force in India's core sector.

The company has made substantial investments in Mega-construction projects, Offshore and Energy.

Most of the contracts were won in the face of stiff international competition.

Essar Gujarat is in the process of setting up the world's largest gas based hot briquetted sponge iron plant.

This Rs.8060 million plant in Hazira, Gujarat, will be completed by early 1990 and will meet the enormous demand for sponge iron in the country — a gap which is expected to be 4.5 million tonnes in 1990.

**THREE** Essar Gujarat Limited is now making a spectacular entry into steel with a

Rs.14000 million steel plant.

This steel complex will be the second largest in the Indian private sector.

Metchem, a subsidiary of US Steel, has conducted a detailed feasibility study for Essar and confirmed the technical, financial and marketing viability of this project.

The project will be largely unaffected by international exchange fluctuations as most raw materials used are indigenous.

At the marketing end, Essar Gujarat is already in the process of tying up with leading commodity trading houses.

**FOUR** As the entire project is a 100% export oriented one, the Government of India will not levy any duties on import of capital equipment and raw materials.

At the same time, Government regulations permit 25% of the production to be marketed in India.

In addition, any sales made to authorised steel importers in India, would be considered as exports.

**FIVE** This project will make Essar Gujarat the largest exporter of steel in India.

Estimated foreign exchange earnings in the next five years are Rs.25000 million.

Being a 100% export oriented unit, the company will be entitled to a 100% tax holiday.

**SIX** Invest in Essar and you'll be investing in high growth. Audited figures of the company show a turnover of

Rs.509 million and a net profit of Rs.103 million.

This turnover is expected to touch Rs.12500 million by 1995. While net profit is expected to soar to Rs.1700 million.

Likewise, gross assets which stand today at Rs.3044 million, are projected to reach Rs.21000 million by 1995.

**SEVEN** A special feature of the Issue: One warrant will be attached with each Convertible Debenture and will be detachable and freely tradeable.

The warrant holder will be entitled to apply for one equity share of the company at any time within 4-5 years from the date of allotment at a price to be decided by the Controller of Capital Issues at that time and not exceeding Rs.70 per share.

**EIGHT** Here's another incentive to invest in Essar: A loyalty coupon worth Rs.10. It can be cashed by the original allottee provided the shares on conversion are retained till December 1992.

**NINE** As a unique feature, the company has finalised the terms of payment specially for the non-resident Indian issue, to minimise the exchange risk.

On application — Rs.60 only.  
On call — Rs.120 (but not before April 1990)

**TEN** In the last five years, Essar has been part of the giant strides India has made in industry.

By making substantial investments in the core sector. So, if you're thinking of investing in your homeland, there's no better time than now.

Terms of the instrument

Secured Convertible Debentures. Face Value Rs.180 each. Rate of interest: 12.5% per annum, payable half yearly.

Conversion terms

The debenture will comprise of two parts: Part A: Rs.80 will be converted into 2 equity shares of par value Rs.10 each at a premium of Rs.30 each on 1st June 1990.

Part B: Rs.100 will be converted into 2 equity shares at par value Rs.10 each at a premium of Rs.40 each on 1st June 1992 (subject to approval of the Controller of Capital Issues).

Listing

The debentures are proposed to be listed at the Bombay, Ahmedabad, Delhi, Calcutta, Madras and Bangalore Stock Exchanges.

Bankers to the Issue:

Kuwait: Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait U.A.E.: Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank, Bank of Baroda, British Bank of Middle East, Grindlays Bank p.l.c., Bank of Credit and Commerce International, Qatar: British Bank of the Middle East, Grindlays Bank p.l.c. Bahrain: Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait, Bank of Baroda, Bank of Credit and Commerce International, British Bank of Middle East, State Bank of India.

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ISSUE OPENS ON 18TH SEPTEMBER 1989 AND CLOSES ON 5TH OCTOBER 1989.



## Sudan must speed up economic reforms

KHARTOUM, Sept. 22, (Reuters). Sudan must accelerate efforts to fix its ailing economy before it will get the massive foreign aid it needs, foreign bankers and economists said today.

They said despite its decision to gradually reduce subsidies on basic items, Sudan appeared to be paying only lip service to the more drastic reforms prescribed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and other foreign creditors.

Finance Minister Sayed Ali Zaki left for Washington today for the annual meeting of the IMF and World Bank, carrying an economic reform plan for discussion.

Details of the plan, which Sudan hopes to implement with foreign funds, have not yet been disclosed.

"The rhetoric is encouraging and the measures taken so far are also useful," a senior Khartoum-based banker told Reuters.

"But most of the ministers and officials I meet seem not to have a clear idea of what to do next," he added.

The country's military junta, which seized power in a coup on June 30, raised bread prices by 25 per cent this week and said it planned the same for other heavily-subsidised items.

Sudan, with a population of about 25 million, has not been able to fully service its estimated \$14 billion foreign debt since the early 1980s.

It has an annual inflation rate of nearly 100 per cent and has been hit since 1984 by drought, floods, famine and invasions of desert locusts.

A long-running civil war in its southern region is sapping its limited resources.

The bread price hike was introduced one month ahead of scheduled talks in Khartoum with the IMF, the first between the two sides since the junta took power from Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi.

The bankers and economists said they were encouraged that the bread price hike did not spark street protests as similar moves had done in the past, but they were sceptical of the junta's willingness to quickly introduce further reforms.

They said the junta's efforts to consolidate power were a top priority likely to prevent it from adopting bold and politically risky reforms.

Police did not intervene in the demonstration, the first since the coup.

Diplomatic sources in Khartoum said a clear sign of the junta's anxiety was the arrest last week of Mohammed Tawfiq, 72, a former foreign minister in ill health.

## Economy shrinks

TOKYO, Sept. 22, (Reuters). Japan's economy shrank in the second quarter for the first time in a year as car exports sagged and consumers cut back on their spending, the government said yesterday.

"The economy shrank primarily because of foreign demand," a government official said.

"A drop in consumer spending ... was also a factor."

News of the poor second quarter performance could prove embarrassing for Japan in a series of international economic meetings starting later this week.

Japan's trade partners have been pushing it to pump up its economy and boost imports so as to cut its big trade surplus.

Government officials were quick to say that the economy is still strong and that last quarter's performance was an aberration.

Private economists echoed that view.

"When you exclude special factors, the economy is healthy," said Hidehiro Iwaki, economist at Nomura Research Institute.

Those special factors include the April 1 introduction of a three per cent sales tax. To beat the tax, Japanese consumers went on a spending spree in March, robbing the second quarter of growth.

## National Australia Bank raises prime rate

# Australia faces tough monetary juggling act

SYDNEY, Sept. 22, (Reuters). Australian treasurer Paul Keating faces the toughest juggling act of his career after August's record current account deficit, economists said.

Keating must maintain his tough monetary policy to achieve the Labour government's avowed aim of turning around the country's massive trade imbalance, while ensuring the squeeze does not propel Australia into recession.

August's 2.6 billion dollar (\$1.95 billion) shortfall also meant Keating must balance growing overseas disquiet about his policies with Labour's wish to win an election due by mid-1990, the economists said.

"There is a growing expectation among domestic and international investors that Keating is not on the right track," one economist, who

declined to be named, said of Keating's reliance on tight money to cut consumer imports.

"People are beginning to think there might be other ways, although these ways are fairly radical and politically sensitive," said John Stroud of Bank of New Zealand.

"But they are not necessarily ways to put into practice just before an election," said Stroud. He suggested a consumption tax, already ruled out as a possibility by Keating, as a way of reducing domestic demand and imports.

"The current account deficit is unsustainably high and there is no scope for relaxation of current tight monetary policy...until the government believes there is an unambiguous downward trend in demand and the current account," Keating said after the figure

was released.

The unnamed economist said: "They could tighten things further, they could take selected measures to curb specific imports and they could also move into 'rhetoric-of-crisis mode' to acknowledge their difficulties."

Keating sent the Australian dollar into a freefall in May 1986 with a warning Australia could become a "banana republic."

Economists said the dollar was now only supported by high domestic interest rates in the wake of the August figure. The currency looks vulnerable in the longer term, they said.

"Another number like August's and it would be a case of more than one swallow does make a summer," said Stroud. "Confidence could go and we'd have a currency adjustment all in one hit."

Economists said the August deficit had blown away any chance of an interest rate cut until at least the first quarter of 1990. National Australia Bank today raised its benchmark (prime) rate 0.5 percentage point to 20.5 per cent.

"If (any interest rate reduction) has clearly been pushed into next year and we'll see more bad figures in the next few months," said Stroud.

Added Hans Kumen of State Bank of New South Wales: "October is normally the worst month for the current account...there could be another push upwards before Christmas."

Many economists, after studying the current account figures, called them an aberration. Andrew Mohl of Australia and New Zealand banking group said September's data would almost certainly bring an improvement.

"Everything that could have gone wrong with imports in August did go wrong and I estimate imports will drop by the best part of 20 per cent next month," Mohl added.

With Labour lagging in opinion polls, Prime Minister Bob Hawke has delayed calling an election in the hope mortgage rates, currently at record levels, will fall by year's end. Hawke has repeatedly said mortgage rates will fall by then.

Opposition treasury spokesman John Hewson said yesterday he believed the government would call an early election in December.

"What these figures did was (bring) forward a greater possibility of an earlier election," another economist said. "If they felt they had to move on rates or change their stance it would be after an election."

Industry Minister John Burton mooted the possibility of a change in government policy yesterday.

"In the medium to long term there will undoubtedly be a need to change the mixture of policy," Burton said. Economists said a change of policy, particularly a politically-inspired cut in interest rates, would be political suicide before the election.

The electorate, and financial markets, would see it as opportunism and the subsequent fall in the dollar would further damage Labour's image, the economists said.

They agreed that there were few short-term options.

"There is no such thing as a quick fix to the current account position we have," said Kumen. Mohl said people should not lose faith.

# Opec predicts strong demand for its crude

### Ministers to discuss long-term strategy

GENEVA, Sept. 22, (Agencies). Opec chiefs believe the surprisingly strong demand for its oil which has buoyed prices in recent weeks will persist for the rest of the year.

Subroto, the Indonesian secretary-general of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, told reporters he thought demand for Opec oil would probably be about 22 million barrels daily in the October-December quarter.

"Twenty-two million does not look like a bad figure for the fourth quarter," he said.

The figure is about five per cent higher than Opec and most market pundits were predicting a few months ago.

But prospects of strengthening production discipline among the 13 Opec members appear to have receded, according to delegates here for ministerial talks starting at the weekend.

The ceiling which Opec imposes on its total supply, within which individual country quotas are assigned, is in fact down at 19.5 million barrels daily.

The coming meeting of Opec's eight-minister market monitoring committee, at which ministers from the five other members will sit in, has a mandate to raise



Sheikh Ali

the ceiling.

Delegates said there was reluctance to take it as high as 22 million barrels since demand could be expected to take a seasonal dip next spring, but one camp favoured going up to perhaps 20.5 million — to "legitimise" at least some of the present excess.

But hopes of doing this receded when it became known that Hisham Nazer, oil minister of Saudi Arabia, the biggest exporter, would not be in Geneva.

He is recovering from the United States from a gall bladder operation and Minister of State Omar Fahh, not known as an oil expert, will head the Saudi team.

The next Opec conference is due on November 25 in Vienna.

Poorer, debt-laden Opec sellers like Venezuela and Indonesia appear to pin their hopes for better discipline and a firmer price floor on a possible Opec summit proposed for the group's 30th anniversary next September.

The ministers meeting in Geneva will consider draft proposals for a long-term strategy which would then be backed by head of state.

The Kuwaiti delegation led by the Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa arrived here yesterday for the Opec ministerial committee meeting beginning tomorrow.

Sheikh Ali made no initial comments upon his arrival at the venue of the meetings, when surrounded by journalists.

Earlier yesterday, an official from the Opec secretariat indicated that among the several issues that would come up before the Opec's market monitoring committee would be — whether or not to increase the present production ceilings, preparations for the Opec summit, and allocation of permit quotas.

A decision likely to come out of the meetings related to the issue of ceilings, he said. He conceded, however, that there were divergent views in this regard.

Issues pertaining to (internal) reorganisation of the Opec secretariat were also likely to come up, the source indicated.

Speaking at the world energy conference, Schlesinger said the demand for Opec oil will be largely driven by the United States.

### Opec to consider new market-sharing pact

## Market conditions to be reviewed

LONDON, Sept. 22, (Kuna). A leading British newspaper said today that Opec oil ministers gather in Geneva this weekend, with oil markets more stable than they have been since nearly four years ago.

The Financial Times newspaper said that the meeting of Opec's eight-member ministerial monitoring committee, whose brief is to review market conditions, will be attended by a number of other ministers as observers.

If a consensus were reached about how to address over-production or quota problems, an extra-ordinary ministerial meeting could be convened, the main business daily in Europe suggested.

Brent crude oil has been hovering near \$18 a barrel for weeks on end, while West Texas Intermediate crude has been selling for nearly \$20 a barrel in the US.

The Financial Times pointed out that Middle Eastern crudes, which tend to be chemically heavier, with a higher sulphur content, have been going for much less.

Dubai crude oil has been quoted on spot markets at under \$1 a barrel.

The paper said that Opec played a role in achieving this stability, while stressing that a "major

disrupting factor in the organisation was removed late last year when Iraq rejoined the quota system, after being given a quota equal to that of Iran."

In the meantime, the paper said that Opec production is estimated to exceed 22 million barrels a day, which is two million BPD above Opec's self-imposed production ceiling.

It believed that the "world's thirst for oil has taken the measure off Opec."

Referring again to this weekend's meeting, the daily said that "it is more likely to be a testing ground for the real battles which will probably be fought out at the regular meeting in November, where Opec will have to approve a new production agreement."

In its European edition in London, the American newspaper, the Wall Street Journal, said the Geneva meeting was intended to consider a new market-sharing arrangement that could lead to a permanent quota system, which would satisfy "Kuwait and others seeking special treatment."

The monitoring committee also was authorised to increase Opec's production ceiling to 20 million barrels a day or more for the fourth quarter "if conditions in the oil market warrant it," it added.

## Peru plans oil contract with Mobil

### Bid to attract investment

LIMA, Sept. 22, (Reuters). Peru's state-owned oil company Petroperu plans to use a 40-year, \$2 billion exploration and production contract as a test case to attract the world's leading oil companies to invest in the country, the company said yesterday.

Petroperu chairman Daniel Nunez said the company's leading technical experts would fly to Houston in mid-October to present the contract to US and international oil companies.

"I met with officials of 17 major oil companies two months ago in Houston and they were very interested in coming to Peru," Nunez said.

Officials have described the contract for the country's Amazon lowlands and main cocaine-producing region as the biggest private oil venture in Peru's

history. They said it could help draw Peruvian farmers away from growing coca, the raw material for cocaine.

Under the pact signed last Friday by Mobil and Petroperu, Mobil Exploration and Producing Peru Inc. won full exploration rights over about 36,000 square kms (14,000 sq miles) — an area larger than Belgium of Holland — of tropical lowlands, much of it covered in previously-unexplored jungle.

The area includes most of the upper Huallaga valley, Peru's biggest coca-producing region and the scene of bloody battles between security forces and Maoist Shining Path guerrillas.

A provision in the contract calls for the Peruvian government to provide full protection to Mobil's staff working in the area, including oil drilling crews.

## Emirates airline honoured

EMIRATES, the international airline of the UAE, has been named Airline of the Year to the Middle East for the second year in succession.

Emirates' latest honour follows a UK-based survey conducted among the 50,000 readers of Executive Travel magazine by the National Opinion Polls organisation.

Competing for the award were all airlines serving the Middle East, including European, American, Asian and Far Eastern carriers.

Executive Travel editor Mike Tonybee said: "There can be little doubt that Emirates has got it right with the service it offers the frequent traveller both in the air and on the ground."

News of the award comes less than a month before the airline celebrates its fourth year of operation and underlines Emirates' quality of service that has been hailed throughout the travel world for its innovation and efficiency.

Sheikh Ahmed Bin Saeed Al Maktoum, chairman of the Emirates, commented: "We are very proud to have won the Airline of the Year to the Middle East award for the second year in a row. It reflects our determination to provide passengers with the best quality service available."

"What makes it more significant is that Emirates has been operating on the Europe-Middle East route for just over two years."

director of the Hong Kong Tourist Association.

"Certainly, tourists from North America and Europe won't be coming back in big numbers anytime soon."

Hotel occupancy rates fell to 76 per cent in June and 71 per cent in July from 91 to 93 per cent a year earlier, the association said, although the rates have also been depressed by the construction of new hotels.

The association said tourists and business travellers arriving in Hong Kong fell 20.5 per cent in June from a year earlier. Retailers catering to tourists said their business has dropped sharply since June.

"This is mainly fallout from China," said Penny Byrne, a spokeswoman for the association.

## Incomes rise sharply in Asia, says study

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22, (AP). Incomes rose sharply for people in key Asian countries last year but dropped again in Southern Africa and Latin America, the World Bank reported yesterday.

In Japan, the average per capita rose to \$12,480 from 1987's \$11,780. The rise in the United States was only about half that: up to \$14,080 from \$13,650.

Analysis of the figures show that compared with wealthier countries, the Third World is losing its share of the world's income, according to John O'Connor, who heads the bank's office on social and economic data.

"Comparatively, the poor are getting poorer," he said.

The figures are corrected for inflation.

People in countries where earnings are lower showed more modest gains.

The average South Korean had a proportionately large increase: from \$2,760 to \$3,060 in 1988. India was up from \$310 to \$330. The Philippines from \$620 to \$680 and Thailand showed a sharp rise from \$830 to \$940.

China's figure for 1988 was not in yet. In 1987 the average Chinese had an income of \$510. No figure was given for Taiwan, which is not a member of the bank.

The World Bank's figures deal largely with Third World countries, since it is the largest source of loans to raise their standards of living. Statistics for 1988 are not yet complete, officials said.

Scattered figures for a few European countries that borrow from the bank showed modest increases: for Cyprus \$4,810 to \$5,010; Greece \$4,310 to 4,440; Portugal \$2,750 to \$2,880; Hungary \$2,190 to \$2,220 and Turkey \$1,550 to \$1,620. But in Yugoslavia there was a drop, to \$3,080 from \$3,180 in 1987.

In Latin America, where the average peaked in 1980 at \$2,010, there was a decrease through 1985. Then a new rise began, but the figure for 1988 fell to \$1,800 from \$1,830.

The significant losses came in the larger countries. In Brazil, which accounts for a third of the production in the continent, the average income dropped to \$1,930 from \$1,980. In Mexico the fall was to \$2,260 from \$2,300 and in Venezuela from \$3,390 to \$3,290.

### Despite IJPC wrangle

## Mitsui sees new Iran business

TOKYO, Sept. 22, (Reuters). Japanese trading firm Mitsui and Co. Ltd says it is confident of future business opportunities in Iran although it is still trying to wind up 18 years of bitter wrangling over an ill-fated chemical plant.

Mitsui's vice-president, Kazuo Horino, said a speedy settlement of costs incurred in the Iran-Japan Petrochemical Co. (IJPC) project would expedite Iranian reconstruction.

"We are not leaving Iran altogether. I think Japanese companies can help Iran mend fences with Western nations, and thus revitalise its economy," Horino told Reuters.

Mitsui-led Japanese partners in IJPC and Iran's National Petrochemical Co. (NPC) have made headway in marathon talks on the petrochemical project, Horino said.

"We are closing the gap on the amount of money the two sides pay each other in a friendly separation," he said.

When NPC managing director Ahmad Rahgozar met Mitsui president Koichiro Egiri from September 7-11 in Tokyo, NPC confirmed for the first time that it will work together with Mitsui to cancel IJPC, a Mitsui spokesman said last week.

The 50/50 joint venture has survived two oil crises, the Islamic revolution in Iran and the eight-year Gulf war since Iran and Mitsui signed a basic agreement in 1971.

But Mitsui petrochemical experts determined that it is economically unjustifiable to resume work on the complex at Bandar Khomeini in northern Gulf, which was hit by Iraqi air raids during the Gulf war.

The two sides have invested a total of 600 billion yen in the project. In 1983, they signed a supplementary accord, which stipulated that Mitsui would end investment in IJPC. The accord was later rejected by Iran's parliament.

Horino said Mitsui burned its fingers on IJPC, but that the lesson is sure to help it cope better with the Iranians.

"When we try again to do business with Iran, it will take the form of an international consortium," Horino said. "This is not only to share the risk, but to invite US and European firms to our future projects to ease friction between the West and Iran."

Horino said NPC officials consider Mitsui's attitude toward IJPC fair and reasonable, and that this will bring about opportunities for Mitsui to work with Iran on new projects.

Among pending Iranian projects is a refinery at Bandar Abbas on the Gulf and a petrochemical complex at Arak, an inland city south of Tehran, trade sources said.

Mitsui is one of the four Japanese trade houses proposing to help finance the Bandar Abbas project to build a 250-billion-yen, 300,000-barrel-per-day refinery to meet domestic fuel needs.

National Iranian Oil Co. (NIOC) suspended talks on Bandar Abbas in June apparently because a Japanese-Italian consortium and NIOC failed to work out differences on construction costs, a Japanese participant said.

US bank boosts reserves

NEW YORK, Sept. 22, (Reuters). A third major US bank yesterday announced a massive increase in reserves to cover problem Third World loans, saying it would add \$2 billion to increase its reserves to 70 per cent of all its loans to developing nations.

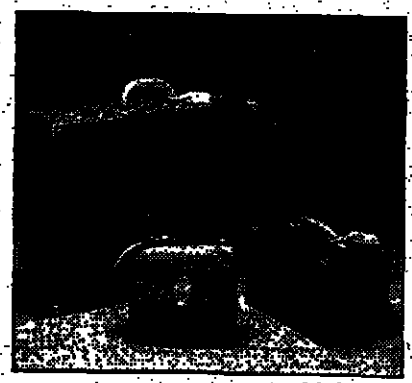
J.P. Morgan and Co. Inc., the fourth biggest US banking company and the parent company of Morgan Guaranty Trust Co of New York, said the move would result in a third-quarter loss of \$1.8 billion. The increase raises its reserves to 100 per cent of medium and long-term Third World loans.

Most large US banks have reserves equal to about 30 per cent of problem loans to developing countries.

On Monday, Manufacturers Hanover Corp of New York said it would add \$950 million to its loan loss reserves, while Chase Manhattan Corp, the nation's second-biggest bank company, said on Wednesday it would add \$1.3 billion.

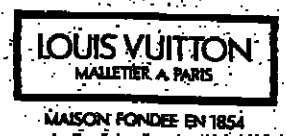
Loan loss reserves set aside money to be used to write off all or part of questionable loans in the future.

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## ABC to get credit rating

BAHRAIN, Sept. 22 (Reuters): A Bahrain-based bank owned by Libya, Kuwait and Abu Dhabi yesterday became the first Arab bank to receive an international credit rating from the United States agency Standard and Poor's International.

Arab Banking Corporation (ABC), Bahrain's largest offshore bank, was given A-level ratings for its long and short-term paper, ABC president and chief executive Abdullah Saudi told Reuters.

"This is the first time an Arab bank has received an international credit rating," he said. "To us it is very important because it means people will know ABC is going on the standards of international banking."

ABC's current shareholders are the Kuwait Ministry of Finance, the Libyan Treasury, and the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority.

Standard and Poor's is a major independent rating agency which gives international investors a way of judging the reliability of paper issued by financial institutions.

A bank spokesman said the agency's rating put ABC's bond and notes on a level of those of many top American banks.

Abdullah Saudi said the bank would stay in profit this year.

The bank took a \$217 million loss in 1987 after sharply boosting provisions for Third World debt, but returned to the black with a net profit of \$124 million in 1988.

Saudi said ABC anticipated making a similar profit in 1989.

The bank's pretax profit for the half-year ended June 30 rose by six per cent from the previous half year to \$72 million.

Saudi said the rating would help a \$250 million public share flotation planned by ABC in the first quarter of 1990, which had been announced earlier this year.

### Currency rates

KUWAIT, Sept. 22 (Kuna): Following are the international currency rates as quoted by local banks and announced by the Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday.

	Buying	Selling
US dollar	0.29923	0.30038
Sterling	0.47128	0.47535
Dm.	0.15368	0.15487
S. fr.	0.17747	0.17896
F. fr.	0.04552	0.04699
It. lira	0.0002138	0.0002149
Jap. yen	0.002046	0.0020788
Bh. dirham	0.79339	0.79729
UAE dir.	0.08145	0.08183
S. riyal	0.07975	0.08013
O. riyal	0.08216	0.08258
O. riyal	0.77681	0.78061

### EXCHANGE RATE

Indian rupee	17.970
Sri Lankan rupee	7.600
Pakistani rupee	14.370
Bangladesh taka	9.220
US dollar	300.30
Pound sterling	47.500
Deutsche mark	154.70
UAE dirham	0.8173
Japanese yen	0.02076

## Tokyo share prices

Nikkei stock average: 34771.79 (+26.77)  
Volume: 650 mil shs  
Yen exchange rate: 145.00

Name of stock	Close
Advantest Corporation	4950
Ajinomoto	2820
Alps Electric	1810
Amada	1950
Asahi Chemical Indus.	1240
Asahi Glass	2320
C. Itoh Co.	990
Canon Inc.	1820
Casio Computer	1400
Dai Nippon Printing	2300
Daichi Seiyaku	3040
Daimippon Pharmaceut	2830
Daishinku Corp.	1790
Eisai	1230
Fanuc Ltd.	7400
Fuji Photo Film Co.	4590
Fujitsu Ltd.	1590
Hitachi Credit	1950
Hitachi Koki	1910
Hitachi Ltd.	1560
Hitachi Metal	1570
Honda Motor	1930
Ito-Yokado Co., Ltd.	4560
Kajima Corporation	2040
Kawasaki Heavy Ind.	1060
Kobe Cast Iron Works	960
Kokusai Elec.	3100
Komatsu Ltd.	1230
Kyocera Corporation	5580
Marui	3340
Matsushita Comm. Ind.	3080
Matsushita Electric	2320
Mazda Motor Corp.	1070

# Thatcher winds up visit to Japan

Confident of better ties

TOKYO, Sept. 22 (Reuters): Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher wound up a four-day visit to Tokyo confident she has improved Britain's ties with Japan, even though Japanese took little heed of her calls to tear down trade barriers.

Thatcher described her Tokyo stay, during which she bluntly told Japan to tear down its trade barriers, as highly enjoyable, most useful and very encouraging.

Japanese media largely ignored Thatcher's hard-hitting keynote speech to a group of economic organisations on Wednesday and focussed instead on her convivial talks with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu.

Even at a news conference yesterday

at the Japan National Press Club, Japanese reporters asked her views on Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, China and education. Not one question concerned trade.

"The Japanese press seems to be tired of reporting trade conflicts," one political analyst said.

But Motofumi Asai, political expert at Tokyo University and a former Foreign Ministry official, said: "The fact that the Japanese press did not report much about Thatcher's speech does not mean Japanese companies have ignored her demands."

"She not only made the speech but visited selected companies in the country. Her message was definitely conveyed."

But many Japanese said they saw the aim of Thatcher's visit just to bolster the prestige of Kaifu rather than to thrash out trade issues.

Kaifu can use the support after his conservative Liberal Democratic Party suffered a stunning defeat in July upper house elections. Lower house polls could be called before year end.

Japanese tend to judge their leaders on how well they relate and deal with heads of the major foreign nations, such as the United States and Britain.

On the day of the British leader's hard-hitting speech on Japan's trade barriers, the television networks aired shots of Thatcher and Kaifu at a later

meeting smiling side by side, and described talks as "very friendly and wide-ranging."

Thatcher told Tokyo in her pointed speech to tear down its trade barriers or risk international retaliation. Japan's closed door to many imports and financial services threatened free world trade, she added.

"We are looking for a change in attitudes and ways of trading... a barrier is a barrier whether you call it a cultural difference or tradition or anything else," she said.

Asked at the news conference if her trip to Tokyo was successful, she said a major objective had been "to raise the

level of our relationship so the 1990s will be a decade of unprecedented partnership and friendship between Britain and Japan. Believe we are all on our way."

A major Japanese financial newspaper, the Nihon Keizai Shimbun, said on an inside page that Thatcher had clearly been criticising Japanese companies but added: "There was a relaxed mood on the Japanese side because there is no large pending issue between Japan and Britain."

However, in talks with Kaifu, Thatcher received assurances that two British companies would gain seats on the Tokyo Stock Exchange sometime next year.

Kaifu also allayed British concern that Scotch whisky imports would not be undermined by low-cost Japanese "new spirits."

During her stay Thatcher sampled Japan's technological revolution by taking a ride on a high-speed "bullet" train to an ultra-modern computer factory near Mount Fuji, Japan's highest peak, west of Tokyo.

One aim of her visit was to encourage more Japanese companies to invest and set up factories in Britain, one diplomatic source said.

She also visited Tokyo shops of British-based concerns to help draw Japanese attention to her country's products.

## Turkey, Libya agree to boost contracting

Plan to expand oil trade

ISTANBUL, Sept. 22 (Reuters): Turkey and Libya have agreed to restart contracting and oil sales worth billions of dollars after several years of dispute, Turkish officials said yesterday.

"We've turned a fresh page. There is a new spirit in Libya," said Mustafa Ozcan, head of the union of Turkish contractors in Libya. Turkey's prime foreign contracting customer.

Turkey, whose imports in 1987 of two million tonnes of Libyan oil plunged to 300,000 tonnes in 1988, agreed to buy three million

tonnes in 1990, State Minister Isin Celebi told reporters.

Celebi, who led a Turkish team for talks with Libyan economic officials in Tripoli last week, said an additional \$100 million worth of Libyan oil would be bought by the end of this year.

The Turkish officials said several years of dispute over \$100 million worth of unfinished building contracts, their Turkish bank guarantees, Libyan contract payments and the price Libya charged for its oil were largely resolved.

Turkish banks agreed to honour \$30 million worth of guarantees for unfinished contracts, \$60 million worth of work was transferred to new contractors and talks continued on the remaining \$10 million of contracts.

The agreement meant that \$1.5 billion worth of Turkish contracts in Libya, which were frozen during the past 18 months of payment disputes, would now go ahead, Ozcan said.

He told Reuters that Libya had wanted Turkish Central Bank project guarantees but

Tripoli agreed to accept guarantees from Turkish commercial banks approved by the Central Bank.

He said Ankara hoped for more projects in a new five-year plan drawn up from 1990 by Libya, where Turkey has completed \$7 billion worth of projects since 1974.

Libya has already paid off this year \$160 million of back debts totalling \$400 million through a joint account set up with Turkey's payments for Libyan oil, Ozcan added.

Scandal has come as a blow to group

## Ferranti clinches credit deal

LONDON, Sept. 22 (Reuters): British defence electronics group Ferranti, which is investigating serious financial losses in a US-based subsidiary, said yesterday it had reached agreement on credit facilities with its bankers.

Ferranti International Signal PLC added that it was in talks about selling non-core assets to raise £100 million (\$158 million) and reduce its debt.

One of the main suppliers of electronic systems to Britain's Ministry of Defence, Ferranti suspended dealings in its own shares on London's Stock Market more than a week ago. On Monday it announced it may have been the victim of a major fraud.

Ferranti is probing what it says are irregularities in some contracts entered into by defence subsidiary International Signal

and Control Technologies Ltd (ISC) of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, which could trim as much as £150 million (\$235 million) off the whole group's net worth.

The effect of Ferranti's agreement yesterday with its bankers is that the group will continue to trade normally, the company said in a note to its 24,000 employees.

"The group will need to reduce its debt and is in negotiations with certain parties to raise approximately £100 million from the sale of businesses which are peripheral to the main electronics activities," the note said.

Ferranti also said it had received a large number of approaches from major British and international defence and electronics groups, and had begun talks with a number of

these. "A range of options is being discussed with these parties. In addition, other alternatives for raising equity are being explored by our financial advisers," it said.

In addition to Ferranti's own internal probe, the US Defence Department has said it is conducting a criminal investigation of ISC.

James Guerin, the founder of ISC, has denied that his company defrauded Ferranti.

A statement released on Wednesday by Joseph Tate, Guerin's lawyer in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, said that "Guerin emphatically denies that he engaged in any fraudulent conduct vis-a-vis Ferranti."

The scandal has come as a blow to Ferranti, supplier of front-line radar and control sys-

tems for key Nato weaponry, as it vies for a billion-dollar contract to supply radar for the European fighter aircraft now being developed by Britain, Italy, West Germany and Spain.

## IMF chief seeks more capital

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22 (Reuters): The head of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has launched the leading body's annual meeting with a plea for fresh capital, saying he needs more money not only to help the Third World but also in case of economic troubles in rich countries.

"The fund has to stand ready to be active in all economies, developing and developed alike," IMF managing director Michel Camdessus told a press conference in Washington yesterday.

The fund, which makes emergency loans to countries with balance-of-payments problems, has not had to bail out an industrial nation since it came to the aid of Britain and Italy in the 1970s.

With the world economy now in its seventh year of consecutive growth, few economists see a reason to worry.

But Camdessus, who is fond of saying that no one expected the oil price rise shock of the 1970s or the Third World debt crisis of the 1980s, said that was no reason to be complacent.

"We have to be prepared to meet all unexpected requests," he said.

Camdessus has been lobbying hard for a big increase in IMF quotas, or membership subscriptions, and has the backing of 19



Michel Camdessus

of the 22 directors on his executive board.

But the United States, which could use its 19.9 per cent share of voting power in the IMF to block any decision on quotas, remains to be convinced, along with Britain and Saudi Arabia, that the fund needs more cash.

Its quotas were last doubled in 1983 to \$120 billion, and of that more than \$50 billion is still available for lending.

Camdessus was expected to gain support for a quota increase from developing countries, who would like the fund to lend them more so they can grow out of their debt problems.

Deputy finance ministers of

the Group of 24 developing countries started two days of talks yesterday to map out common policies on issues such as quotas and debt strategy ahead of a full ministerial meeting tomorrow.


According to officials involved in the talks, poor countries are particularly concerned that US Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady's plan to ease the burden of Third World debt owed to commercial banks does not go far enough.

They want to send a message to the rich countries that control in IMF and its sister agency, the World Bank, that relief should not be limited to a few strategically important debtors such as Mexico and the Philippines—the only countries so far to have clinched a Brady Plan deal.

Despite the long years of prosperity in industrial nations, no significant growth has been achieved in many countries.

Africa grew by three per cent in 1988, rebounding from a contraction of 1.4 per cent in 1987, but on a per capita basis output fell 0.4 per cent. Incomes remain 15 per cent lower than they were a decade ago, according to the World Bank.

In Latin America, economic growth was a positive 1.4 per cent in 1988 but per capita output shrank 0.6 per cent.



## CENTRAL BANK OF KUWAIT

### ANNOUNCEMENT

**For Subscription in Issue No. ( 71 ) for Treasury Bills**  
**Authorised by Decree Law No. ( 50 ) of 1987**

CENTRAL BANK OF KUWAIT, on behalf of the Ministry of Finance of the State of Kuwait, hereby announces the offering of TREASURY BEARER BILLS in Kuwaiti Dinar for SUBSCRIPTION in compliance with the following Rules and Regulations:

- 1. AMOUNT OF ISSUE:**  
The Amount of this Issue is **KD 150 million** distributed over **THREE** Denominations as follows:  
KD 50 000, KD 250 000, KD 500 000
- 2. ISSUE DATE:** Wednesday 27 / 9 / 1989
- 3. DUE DATE :** Wednesday 27 / 12 / 1989
- 4. OFFERING PERIOD:**  
From : Saturday 23 / 9 / 1989  
To : Tuesday 26 / 9 / 1989
- 5. ALLOTMENT:** Wednesday 27 / 9 / 1989
- 6. DELIVERY OF BILLS:**  
After one week following the date of submitting the application.
- 7. The Provisions of this Issue shall be subject to the Rules and Conditions stipulated in the Announcement for Subscription in Issue No. (1) for Treasury Bills, published in the Local Newspapers of Saturday, November 21, 1987 and in the Official Gazette (Kuwait Al-Yaum) No.1746 issued Sunday, November 22, 1987.**

## SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 22/09/1989			
B.No.	Ships Name	Agent	Tel. No.
2	Zarka	GH&Q	4347815
11	AS Okan	Sawan	4746018
12	Chatanooga-L	Balship	2436920
18	Cheekay	GH&Q	4347815
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT			
ETA	Ships Name	Agent	Tel. No.
20/9	New Sea	GH&Q	4347815
21/9	Ville D'Oman	Yaas	4745533
21/9	Hual Tracer	A. Bahar	2459891
21/9	Ever Oasis	SMS	4745471
21/9	Frinton	GH&Q	4347815
21/9	Bijiang	M. Bahar	2433881
22/9	Alyasrah	L. Stock	2434177
22/9	Maersk Fiero	Behbehani	2412085
SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT			
B.No.	Ships Name	Agent	Tel. No.
2	Golden Sea	RSMS	2423642
6	Hargevan	Algh Barwil	4842988
9	Pelagos	Algh S. Freight	2425815
VSL AT ANCHORAGE			
Ships name	Agent	Tel. No.	
	Sea Glistar	M.A.	
		Bahar	
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT			
ETA	Ships Name	Agent	Tel. No.
20/9	Bella-L	Al Kamal	2425437
21/9	Frinton	GH Qutub	4347815
21/9	Al Jhsa'a	UASC	4843150

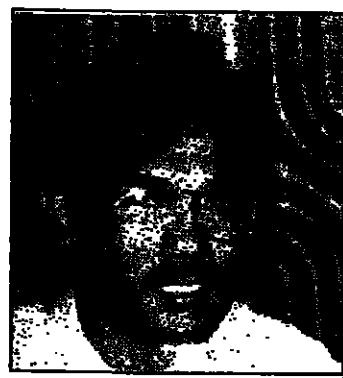
Compiled by: Alghanim Barwil Shipping Co. WLL, Tel: 4842588/4843888 ext. 3628/3646 Fax No. 4845712, Tlx 22084 Barwil KY Tlx 30684 SLS KY.



## EVENTS

## FCC's Fiesta Teatro

By Ma Suzette E. Vasallo



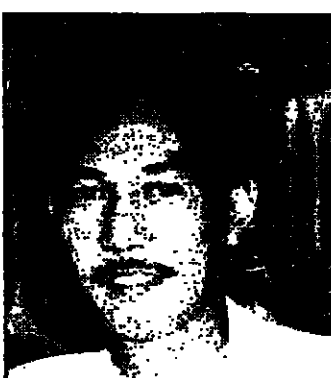
AFTER the overwhelming success of "Fiesta Filipiniana '89" encore performance, the Filipino Cultural Club (FCC), under the able leadership of Buddy Patangan, in its bid to glorify the club's ideals and aspirations to bolster wholesome entertainment, proudly announces to its clamouring followers, "The Saga of Amadeus," a two hour stage play by Peter Shaffer, depicting the life central character, Wolfgang "Amadeus" Mozart, an Austrian renowned composer.

Winner of the "Evening Standard Drama" award, this one-of-a-kind novelty, all inspiring and captivating, will be brought to you by the same group of people who tickled your hearts to a moment of tears and laughter, a few enchanting evenings ago at FCC's "Fiesta" affair.

Cast includes: Marissa Arce, the familiar figure in the role of Cory Aquino, Mads Ramos, playing the arrogant Imelda Marcos, newcomer Pam Collina and the sensational "SISA," Jean Pastor. Likewise from FCC's line-up of striking personalities are: Jun Sta Maria, Dick Orense, Rod Manslo, Mandy Salvo and many others.

But the most significant feature of them all is Tolits Matig-A, the controversial, multi-talented, most sought after personality, who is the inspirational figure behind "Fiesta." Watch him this time on stage as he displays his natural flair for acting. Overall chairman and director of this unique innovation is the guy who brought to you the very touching mini-play "SISA," Joey Laurente.

On October 20, 1989 at the very significant Al Jahra Ballroom of the Meridien Hotel, see for yourselves FCC's greatest performance. Remember FCC is always for you!



Pictures show members of FCC.

## NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait  
Al Watan Pharmacy  
Fahad Al Salem St.  
Jawharat Al Khaleej Bldg.  
Al Alamiya Pharmacy  
Fahad Al Salem St.  
Al Jandool Bldg.  
Najra and Hawalli  
Al Rehab Pharmacy

Hawalli, Tunis St.  
Al Rehab Complex  
Salamiya and Almasadi  
Al Meedan Pharmacy  
Baghdad St.  
Mishari Al Khaled Bldg.  
Fahad Al Salem St.  
Al Wafa Pharmacy  
Fahad Al Salem St.

Al Dabous Qaysariya  
Farwaniya  
Al Minsar Pharmacy  
Farwaniya, South Souq St.  
Property of Abbas Mnsar  
Jahra  
Al Khaled Pharmacy  
Jahra, Opposite to Jahra Co-operative Society

• All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

## WHAT'S ON

## ARTS

**Kuwait Science Museum**  
OPEN Sat - Wed, 8 - 9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursdays and Fridays.  
**Islamic Arts Museum**  
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon and 4.00 to 7.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment.

**Tareq Rajab Museum**  
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; Fridays: 9 am to 12 noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

**Sadu House**  
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

**Watercolour Painting**  
LEARN watercolour painting with Patricia Mills, 8 week courses for Beginners and Advanced for details tel: 5618847.

**Pottery and Crafts**  
Develop your child's creativity in pottery & crafts (8-12 yrs old). Also watercolour painting and jewellery making for adults. For details Tel: 5618847, 5317354, 9 am - 12 noon & 4 - 6.30 pm.

## SOCIAL

**Ahmad Musical Society**  
REHEARSALS for the 1989/90 season will start on Saturday 16th September, at 7.30 pm at the Kuwait Little Theatre, Ahmad. New singers welcome. For further details ring 3912384.

**Navalium Youth Centre**  
NOV 16: A annual get-together with live music from "Stepping Stones and Top-Ranks" having lots more amusements, surprises awaiting at Le Mirage ballroom — Ramada Al Salam Hotel. Contact: Mr Alex — 2426334, Mr Marian — 2416945.

**Pakistan Arts Circle**  
A SERIES of programmes is being organised by the Pakistan Arts Circle, which includes mushairas, musical varieties, literary discussions, etc. Families are most welcome. Please register your names on Tel. Nos. 5323693, 5717585 or 4716258.

**Colva Nite**  
OCT 19: Annual Colva Nite at New Ballroom of Ramada Al Salem Hotel. Top Ranks in attendance. For details contact

Tele. 2413884/2434776/56291-41/4310913 after 5 pm.

**Contact ladies information**  
Sept. 23: Contact ladies information will be held on Saturday, Sept 23 at 10 am at the Messilah Beach Hotel. Newcomer's welcome. For details call: 3720197, 4874513, 5388103 (Dennis).

**Vienna Boys Choir**  
The Vienna Boys Choir will be performing at the Kuwait International Hotel on 26th September at 8.00 pm in the Grand Ballroom. Tickets available at the Reception counter: 2530000/8040. KD8.00 for adults, KD5.00 for child under 12 years.

**Breeze '89**  
OCT 26: Tivim Centre's — Breeze '89 is going to hit the floors of Ramada Al Salam hotel New Ballroom at a social evening organised in commemoration of village festival. Top Rank and Stepping Stones will provide scintillating music, lots of surprises await. For further information pls contact the organisers, Casmiro or Mario on Tel. No. 2441860/67 after 3.30 pm.

**Filecheck chess**  
SEPT 26: The Filipino Chess Club in Kuwait (Filecheck) invites all Filipino Chess enthusiasts to join the first "Active Chess Tournament." Attractive prizes await the lucky winners. Entry forms are available at Kabayan Restaurant. Deadline for submission of entries is Sept 15. For more details contact Edward Racaza (2421868, 2402405), Chito (2443961) or Jun (2409650).

**British Council**  
Around the world with Willy Fog: Wednesday, 20 September at 6 pm, Thursday 21 September at 10.30 am (52 min). This is a charming adaptation of Jules Verne's classic novel "Around the World in Eighty Days", with one major difference. All the characters are animals. Willy Fog, an elegant gentleman, offers a bet of half of his fortune that he can go around the world in 80 days. Accompanied by his French valet, Rigodon, and their small companion with a big heart, Tico, they set off in an incredible trip around the world.

**Moods & Melody**  
"Moods & Melody" performs "Geet Maala", a presentation of pop songs from Hindi, Malayalam, Tamil and Telugu films — on 12th October 1989 at Indian Arts Circle auditorium, Funaites at 7.00 pm. For more details contact Tel: 4338579 and 2407418, after 4.00 pm.

## Spoken Arabic

The Public Authority for Applied Education and Training is starting to offer spoken Arabic classes for non-native speakers. The programme, starting in October 89, is for beginners and having intermediate knowledge in colloquial conversation. The registration will start on 16th September, 1989. Those who are interested please contact on telephone Nos. 2413050 Ext. 243, 269; 2455860 Ext 454, 455, 457; 2411383.

**Gala**  
Dec 8: Expatriates Club will hold a gala social for children and adults at the Tent, SAS Hotel. Fifty-five attractive hamper prizes and other gifts will be given away.  
**Konkani drama**  
Nov 2, 3: The new GOA presents M. Boyer's "Chintnam Zalim Sopnam" at the IAC (Funaites). Cast includes the Charlie Chapin of Goa 'Jacinto Vaz' along with Remy Colaco, Seby Coutinho, Betty Naz and others. Tickets now available. Contact Canary Video (Sharq) or Video Clock (near GPO).

**Pakistan Arts Circle**  
A get-together party will be held at the residence of PAC's Sr. Vice-President Farooq Khan, on Thursday, the 21st Sept, 1989 at 8.00 pm. Families already registered are cordially invited. For further information, please contact tel. 5323693, 5717585, 4848643 or 4716258.

**Palarong Pilipino Annual**  
All the winners in the just concluded Palarong Pilipino organised by the Kapitanang Pilipino sa Kuwait (Kapilku) should submit their pictures on or before September 22 to Homer L. Mesina, Vice-President of Media and External Affairs and the Chairman of the 9th Palarong Pilipino Souvenir Programme.

For group, the picture must be coloured and the size is 5"x7" with their officials and players and for the individual, it must be coloured and the size is also 5"x7". Sponsors and donors who may wish to place ads must contact Sarah Macarimbang, Vice-President for Social and Cultural Affairs at 4843447.

**Kapilku Night**  
The Association of Filipinos in Kuwait (Kapilku) will hold their Kapilku Night on Friday, September 29 in Holiday Inn Hotel at 5.00 pm. This singing contest is open to all Filipinos and the competition is divided into two categories, namely, Bagong Kampeon (regular singing contest) and Sing-Alike.

The first three winners in each division will receive valuable prizes from the sponsors. Interested participants are requested to contact VP Sarah Macarimbang the chairperson at 4843447 and Rod Cerezo at 2433595, the co-ordinator.

**Free Tailoring Class**  
Kapitanang Pilipino sa Kuwait (Kapilku) will hold their free tailoring class to all bonafide Kapilku members beginning Friday, September 22 at Far East Restaurant from 9.00 am to 12.00 noon. This self-improvement course is one of the many projects by Kapilku. The class will run every Friday and end on October 3. All materials needed for the class are given free to all participants. Master cutting, Barong Tagalog and executive suits will be covered in the course. For particulars, please contact Sarah Macarimbang Vice-President for Social and Cultural Affairs at 4843447.

## Overnight picnic

THE IAC is planning an overnight picnic for members to Failaka on October 5th and 6th. Those interested may contact Mohan George at 3904817 after 6.30 pm for enrolment. Or Bijili Varghese for details on 5613908 (R) or 2438011 ext. 274 (O).

## An evening with SPOK

THE Samahaning Pilipinong Optometrist sa Kuwait (SPOK) will hold their annual get-together party at the Grand Jahra Ballroom of the Meridien Hotel on Friday, October 6, 1989 at 6 pm. The affair entitled "An Evening with SPOK — A Touch of Class" aims to encourage the Filipino community in Kuwait to get themselves acquainted with the Filipino Optometrists and become aware of the various services SPOK can render for their individual optical needs and visual problems. Proceeds of the affair will be donated to charitable institutions in the Philippines.

For particulars, please contact, Dr. Rose "chi-chi" Luna, Tels: 2415901/2419285 and Dr. Rosale Austria, Tel: 2435712.

## Fiesta Teshra

OCT 20: A red letter day for stage play Afficionados. The Filipino Cultural Club (FCC), under the chairmanship of Buddy Patangan, proudly represents another unique innovation of theirs, this time, directed by Joey Laurente, the energetic "brains" behind the sensational SISA. Highlighting the intricate interesting life of its central character, Austrian composer, Wolfgang "Amadeus" Mozart. This two hour stage play will hold the same vibrant, all spirited team of the legendary "Fiesta

## CINEMA

Al-Andalus  
Nuts  
Salmiya  
(Cinema is booked)  
Hama  
Arabic Film  
Drive-In  
Arabic Film  
Firdous  
Shriman Shrimati  
Fahad  
Arabic Film  
Fahad Open  
Maar Dajad  
Jahra  
Salam Ander  
Granada  
Deadly Illusion  
Salaikhahat  
Arabic Film  
Jleeh  
Arabic Film

## Radio Programmes

## English

MORNING  
0800 Opening  
0802 Songs and Music  
0805 Science Journal  
0820 Songs and Music  
0840 Songs and Music  
0915 Daily Programme  
0930 Radio Magazine  
1000 Our Press Today  
1005 Songs and Music  
1030 Songs and Music  
1100 Closedown  
EVENING  
2100 Opening  
2102 Bits and Bytes  
2130 News  
2145 Point of View  
2155 Songs and Music  
2200 Facts About Zionism  
2215 Magazine Special  
2245 Daily Programme  
2300 Fell Mdl  
2400 Closedown

## PRAYERS

Fajr	4.18 am
Zuhr	11.41
Asr	3.06 pm
Maghreb	5.43
Isha	7.01

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

## KTV 1

The Morning Period  
9.00 Opening and Holy Quran  
9.15 Sabah Al Khir News and Variety  
9.30 Iftah Ya Sim Sim: Children's Cultural Programme  
10.00 Magazine D'Actualite  
10.15 Mawlood Ft. Al Wagt Al 'Dhayer: Arabic Serial (Part 13)  
11.00 Sabah Al Khir News and Variety  
11.15 Achlah Wa Miah: Local Serial (Part 8)  
12.00 Sabah Al Khir News and Variety  
12.15 Saya Bu Khodair: Arabic serial, Starring: Teama Abdul Majeed, Wajed Abu Ghani, Saleema Khodair  
1.00 News Summary  
1.05 Holy Quran and Closedown  
The Evening Period  
4.00 Opening and Holy Quran  
4.15 The World Today Via Satellite  
4.45 Children's Stories: Cartoon serial  
5.15 Cartoons  
5.45 Religious feature  
6.15 Nihayat Saif: Arabic serial (Part 6)  
7.00 Night Chemsits: Air lines and Official advertisements  
7.35 Noor Al Islam: Religious Programme  
8.05 Shuara Al Saf: Al Thani: Cultural Programme (Part 14)  
Starring: Hasan Husni, Hala Fakhir and Huda Issa  
9.00 Arabic News  
9.45 Wajeda Wa Sameh: Arabic serial (Part 15)  
10.30 Alla Themat: Al Tahceq: Arabic late



Japan behind the masks.

night feature, Starring: Raghad, Ahniah, Lukaser, Aziz Rasheed  
12.15 News Summary  
12.20 The World Today Via Satellite  
12.45 Holy Quran and Closedown

## KTV 2

6.00 Opening: Announcement & Holy Quran  
6.10 Peoples: A cartoon series for children  
6.30 3 - 2 - 1 Contact "Motion"  
7.00 Wild World of Animals: "Black Bear": We get a closer look at the black bear in its natural environment and see how the presence of man has changed it.  
7.30 Full House: "Middle Age Crazy": A woman is invited by the family man, who is planning for a surprise...

8.00 News in English  
8.30 Starman "Starscape" Part I: The tantalizing discovery of a star-cape painting leads Starman and Scott to New Mexico, convinced that the artist is Jenny Hayden and that their search will soon be over.  
9.30 Japan behind The Mask: The Japanese miracle — how Japan has developed from a feudal state into a modern country.  
10.30 TV Movie "The Ultimate Thrill": Starring: Barry Brown, Bit Eklund. A jealous wealthy man kills an ice-skier in a winter resort whom he believed has an unlawful relationship with his wife. The same trick is planned against the deceased friend!  
12.00 News in Brief  
12.15 Magazine D'Actualite

## BBC World Service highlights

## Watch On The Rhine

WHEN Lillian Hellman wrote her play, World War II was very much a European war and America's involvement was in the future. First produced in New York in 1941 *Watch on the Rhine* focuses on the well-off Farrelly family who are awaiting the return of daughter Sara, her German husband Kurt and their children from war-torn Europe. They arrive safely but the family's relief is short-lived when a house-guest begins to question Kurt's background and involvement in the anti-Nazi movement.  
(60') Sunday, Sept 24 at 1501 and 2201.  
Frequency: 17.64 MHz/17.01 m  
15.64 MHz/19.91 m  
11.76 MHz/25.51 m

Barry Cowan talks to ministers who have served in Northern Ireland including James Prior, Tom King, Mervyn Rees and William Whitelaw and traces the political developments of the past 20 years.  
(45') Saturday, Sept. 23 at 2201 and Monday, Sept. 25 at 1815  
Frequency: 17.64 MHz/17.01 m  
15.64 MHz/19.91 m  
11.76 MHz/25.51 m

## Off the Shelf: The Judge and the Hangman

A POLICE lieutenant is mysteriously murdered in the countryside near Berne in Switzerland. Inspector Barlach is put on the case and soon has somebody in mind for the crime but there are several other mysteries to be unravelled before the case can be drawn to its conclusion. Friedrich Durrenmatt's tale of murder and mystery has been adapted in five episodes to be broadcast each weekday Monday to Friday. It is read by Bernard Hepton.  
(15') Monday, Sept 25 at 0730 and 1730  
Frequency: 17.64 MHz/17.01 m  
15.64 MHz/19.91 m  
11.76 MHz/25.51 m

## The View from the Castle

SEVENTEEN years ago the situation in Northern Ireland had deteriorated so much that the British government decided to remove power from the Stormont parliament and transfer it to Westminster. Today the political instability and violent unrest still continue despite the efforts of ministers.




**Onam celebrations:** The Engineers Forum of Kuwait celebrated Onam on Friday at the Indian Arts Circle. The six hour programme included folk dances (the Forum Children are shown above), a tug of war, bingo a lucky draw and of course the "Ona Sadiya."

هكذا من الأمل



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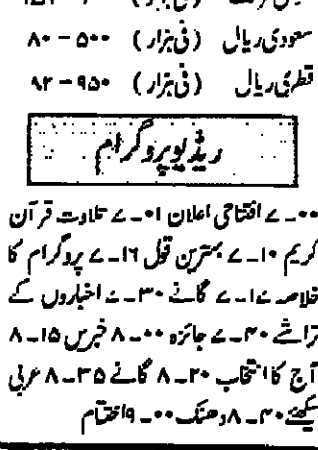


بلڈنگ مکمل ہو چکی ہے۔ عیوب کا کنکشن ختم ہی  
تاریخ افتتاح کا اعلان کیا جائے گا

ایس ایف ایس کارپوریشن، انجینئر ڈاکٹر امجد علی بھٹو پاکستان کی خدمات  
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شہنشاہی ڈاکو میٹیش اور کینیڈین سرکاری کارخانہ رکھنے والے  
سٹائن کی ضرورت ہے جو قابل تہذیب اقامت رکھتے ہوں۔

مختص: ایس۔ سلطان احمد رابطہ کیونکر ہائوس

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# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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● Give one film for printing & developing and get an enlargement 20x25 cm FREE  
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## Boxer's mum KO's opponent

SOUTHAMPTON, England, Sept. 22. (AP) Boxer Tony Wilson won his fight in three rounds last night after his mother climbed into the ring and hit his opponent over the head with her shoe.

Opponent Steve McCarthy left the ring with blood seeping from a head wound as security officer ushered Mrs Minna Wilson away.

When McCarthy refused to return, referee Adrian Morgan raised Wilson's arms in victory, declaring McCarthy had retired.

Uproar broke out among the 1,000 spectators at the Guildhall in the south English port city of Southampton where the British light heavyweight title eliminator fight between local fighter, McCarthy, and Wilson was being staged.

Wilson, from Wolverhampton in central England, was kicked and punched by the crowd, furious at the referee's decision, before escaping to a dressing room, sheltered by his trainer and manager Jimmy Tibbs.

Wilson said: "The first thing I saw was my mum in the ring, and then everything went wild."

"She has been watching my fights for years and nothing like this has happened before."

Extra police were sent in when trouble flared, but there were no arrests and no reports of injuries.

The British domestic news agency Press Association quoted an unnamed senior police officer as saying: "We sent a large number of police officers when the problems first arose, but thankfully the people there calmed down."

Wilson later said the uproar was worse than the Hagler-Minter fight at the London in September 1980 when Marvin Hagler was battered with bar glasses after taking the world middleweight title from Alan Minter in one of the worst scenes in British sporting history.

## Shriver goes down to Smith

# Navratilova wins easily



Navratilova sails into quarterfinals

DALLAS, Sept. 22. (Reuters) Top-seeded Martina Navratilova opened her bid for a ninth Dallas title in convincing fashion with a 6-1, 6-0 rout of Dinky van Rensburg yesterday in the second round of the \$250,000 Women's Championship.

Three other seeded players also advanced to the quarterfinals, with only seventh-seeded Raffaella Reggi of Italy given a struggle before completing a 6-4, 5-7, 6-2 win over Hungarian Andrea Temesvari.

Third-seeded Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria outtrilled American Audra Keller 6-3, 6-3, and sixth seed Mary Joe Fernandez defeated fellow-American Kate Compert 6-1, 6-3.

Navratilova, who had not originally planned to defend her Dallas title but did so to be eligible for year-end bonus money, played with enthusiasm and never let her South African opponent into the match.

Van Rensburg, 74th in the world, could not handle Navratilova's hooking serve that repeatedly pulled her too wide to hit her two-handed backhand effectively.

Van Rensburg failed to reach break point on Navratilova's serve and could not contend with the world number two's aggressive service returns.

Navratilova, the runner-up at Wimbledon and the US Open, said things went almost exactly according to plan.

"I hit the ball really well, like I've been doing most of the year. When I serve that well and keep the pressure on things go great," said Navratilova.

Reggi, ranked 20th, held off Temesvari by hitting sharply angled passing shots when Temesvari approached the net, which she did frequently, and successfully in the second set.

On Wednesday, unseeded Anne Smith sent fourth-seed Pam Shriver reeling even further with a 3-6, 7-6 (7-5), 6-4 victory.

Second-seeded Arantza Sanchez-Vicario won her first match on a supreme court indoor surface over Canadian Rene Simpson 6-4, 6-1 in a second-round match.

Fifth-seeded Monica Seles of Yugoslavia and eighth-seeded South African Rosalyn Fairbank were also straight-set winners in the second round, beating respectively Elise Burgin and Shaun Stafford, both of the United States and both unseeded.

Shriver's slide, which has sent her from fifth to ninth in the world, has included losses in the third round at Wimbledon and the first round of the US Open.



Kevin Curren survives tough game

## Curren rallies to defeat Wheaton

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 22. (Reuters) Kevin Curren, the sixth seed, survived a strong challenge from 20-year-old David Wheaton in the second round of the \$425,000 Los Angeles Grand Prix tournament yesterday.

Curren, 31, saved four match points before beating his fellow-American 3-6, 6-3, 7-6.

Top-seeded American Michael Chang had no difficulty in dismissing his compatriot Kenny Thorne, a qualifier ranked 452, 6-1 in just 55 minutes.

Curren let 2-0 and 3-1 first-set leads slip away. Wheaton broke through for a 5-3 lead with a stab volley winner and then served out the set 6-3 when Curren missed a forehand.

In the second set, the roles were reversed. Curren broke once for 3-1 and then served out the set 6-3 on a backhand error by Wheaton.

The match was dominated by big serves from both players and neither could break in the third set. Curren had 10 aces in the match to Wheaton's four, and was less threatened on his service in the third set as games reached 6-6 for a tiebreak.

Wheaton jumped out to a 5-1 lead in the tiebreak and had four consecutive match points at 6-2. But Curren saved the first with a forehand return down the line the second when Wheaton missed a forehand pass the third on a lucky volley to midcourt, and the fourth with a forehand volley.

Wheaton then gave up on an easy lob, which landed well inside the baseline to give Curren his first match point. Curren converted the opportunity and clinched the climactic decider 8-6 with a spin serve and forehand volley.

"When you have two guys who serve that well and the court is medium to fast, you're going to have the sort of match," Curren said.

"He did play some great shots," Wheaton said. "But at 6-2 (in the tiebreak) I served to his forehand which was a big mistake."

Of the lob he let go, Wheaton said: "It was stupid. I should have hit it and not worried about if it was going out or not."

Chang outstayed a nervous Thorne who served five double-faults and had no answer to Chang's speed and passing shots.

"Today was tough for Kenny because he hasn't been on the tour long," Chang said. "I've been in the same situation and you're very nervous going out there."

## I will KO Leonard: Duran

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22. (AP) Roberto Duran yesterday predicted he would knock out Sugar Ray Leonard in their World Boxing Council super middleweight fight in December.

Leonard, meanwhile, vowed to go "back to the drawing board" in an effort to recapture the magic that eluded him in his draw with Thomas Hearns.

"I will be the winner by KO," Duran said through an interpreter. "When he stops clowning around and starts fighting, that will be the end."

Duran, 38, is intent upon gaining a measure of revenge for his infamous "no mas" defeat at the hands of Leonard nine years ago. Duran, frustrated by Leonard's showboating, quit boxing in the eighth round and thus allowed Leonard to avenge what remains his lone loss as a professional.

The only other blemish on Leonard's otherwise perfect record is the 12-round draw against Hearns on June 12. Leonard said yesterday that he was not mentally prepared for the bout, a shortcoming he promised would not occur when he meets Duran in the rubber match of their storied rivalry.

"I was in tip-top shape physically. But I wasn't OK

mentally," Leonard said. "It was a no-win situation, because everyone expected me to knock him out in one round. The motivation was not there."

"That wasn't me out there against Tommy. I just didn't have that magic," he said. "So I'm going back to the drawing board, back to the basics, to get in total focus this time."

To help him reach his goal, Leonard said he dumped trainer David Jacobs and will use Jose Corrae. "I thought he would be the man for this particular fight," he said. "The 33-year-old Leonard said he wouldn't go toe-to-toe with Duran, but doubted whether he could frustrate his foe again, as he did in New Orleans in 1980, by tauntingly dancing around the ring."

"I think he's prepared for that. I think he has the mindset now that he won't allow that to happen," Leonard said. "I'm going to do it. But I don't think he'll make an irrational decision to just say 'the hell with it' and quit."

While Duran has been waiting to get a shot at Leonard for nearly a decade, Leonard said his rival finally became a worthy opponent when he won a split decision over Iran Barkley to win the WBC middleweight crown last February.

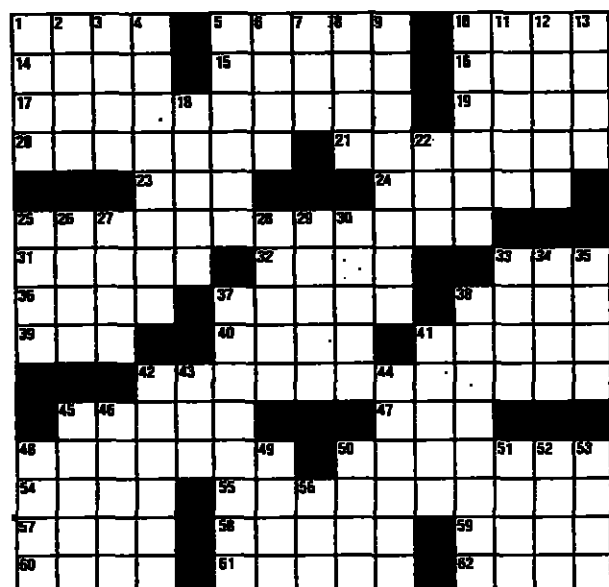
## Chavez wins IBF crown

JAKARTA, Indonesia, Sept. 22. (AP) Eric Chavez of the Philippines knocked out Indonesia's Nico Thomas in the fifth round last night, taking away his International Boxing Federation strawweight championship.

The 28-year-old Chavez stopped Nico, 23, at 2:14 minutes of the fifth round, landing a hard right uppercut to his stomach.

It was the 16th knockout victory for Chavez, who is unbeaten in 29 professional fights, although he has three draws on his record. The loss was the second for Nico, who has 12 victories, including six knockouts, and two draws.

### TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Ornamental braid
  - Irish port
  - Fellow
  - Stravinsky
  - Soviet cooperative
  - American suffragist Julia Ward
  - What the Constitution embodies
  - White House office
  - List, as would a CPA
  - Cut in three equal parts
  - "...man die, shall he live again?": Job
  - Consumers
  - Bill of Rights document, with "The"
  - Nebraska Native Americans
  - Sci. of defining tech. terms
  - US pharmacist asso.
  - Creeks
  - Mod painting
  - Type of corner
  - Tree in the olive family
  - English poet Nicholas: 1574-1718
  - Isolated
  - Constitutional convention city
  - High-altitude residence
  - Scottish "no"
  - Mino's daughter
- DOWN**
- Fatuous
  - The South of France
  - Years: The Constitution's age
  - Suffixes denoting sugars
  - Spooky
  - 59 At —
  - Dried up
  - Mild oaths
  - Slueths, for short
  - Leslie Caron movie
  - "Rhythm": Gershwin
  - Str
  - Certain properties
  - Japanese war cry
  - Weapon, in Paris
  - Fr. holy woman
  - Budget item
  - Unselfish one
  - Selected
  - Move, like a chopper
  - Spies in the sky, for short
  - Tanning object
  - Splits
  - Therm or bar precursor
  - J. F. Cooper heroine
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♦ A K Q 6

♣ Q 5 2

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♥ A

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♣ 8 4 3

#### EAST

♠ Void

♥ Q J 10 9 8 6 5 2

♦ 4

♣ J 10 9 6

#### SOUTH

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♥ Void

♦ J 9 7 5

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It was not long before Tommy

got the opportunity to practice his

unusual craft. A well-judged pre-

empt by East nudged North-South

into a precarious slam. Six dia-

monds, which might have been

reached had there been no inter-

ference, needs only reasonable care

as the cards lie. West's double of six

spades, suggesting trumps were

stacked, was manna for ICT.

Declarer ruffed the opening heart

lead and led a trump, inserting dum-

my's eight when West followed low.

East's heart discard did not come as

a surprise to anyone. But now de-

clarer needed to find a very precise

distribution to get home.

A gleam of light appeared when

East showed out on the second dia-

mond. Tommy took four rounds of

that suit. Next came three rounds of

clubs, and when West had to follow

to all of them, declarer was in a

position to claim his contract.

West and South were down to

nothing but four trumps each. Tom-

my cashed the ace of spades, then

ruffed a heart with the nine. West

overruled with the ten, but was

caught in an endplay—forced to

lead a trump away from the queen

into declarer's king-jack tenace. An

amazed West found that three possi-

ble trump tricks had been whittled

down to a mere one!

"Nervous? I'll say, vicar

—my car's in for its MOT!"

"I've had you trans-

ferred here, from the

typing pool, for two

reasons, Miss

Frisky!"

"I hate passing them

first time... I'm a

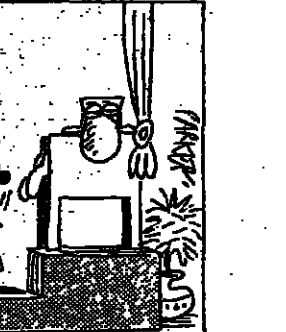
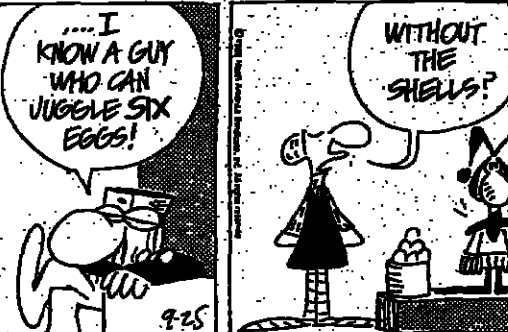
husband myself!"

"This should be

interesting!"

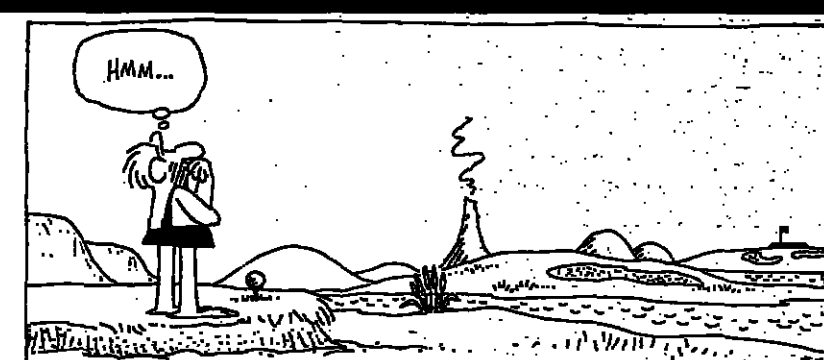
### THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



### B.C.

By Johnny Hart



### YOUR STARS



**Aries (March 20 - April 18)**

Do not allow some external event to upset your inner peace of mind. You should avoid doing anything silly if you can. So think a little longer and harder before acting. Be as good as your word.



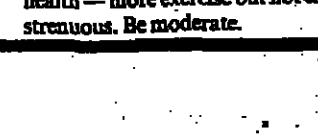
**Cancer (June 21 - July 21)**

Try to keep things as simple as possible. You will be able to do something that will greatly please your partner. You should not be quick to criticize others. Be generous.



**Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)**

You will be able to do something very much to your liking. However, do not ignore what has to be done whether you like it or not. Try to show a little more sympathy towards one of your friends. Be candid.



**Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 19**

There will be some conflict but at the end of the day you will be able to resolve it. A little time spent tidying up will be well worth the effort. Make sure you do not live too much in the past. Be reliable.



**Taurus (April 19 - May 19)**

You will be able to learn the correct lesson from an unusual experience. You will be able to take advantage of a good opportunity. You will have a little more time to devote to your personal affairs. Be thankful.



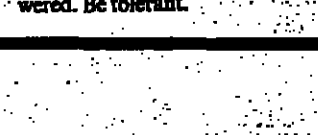
**Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)**

You should keep your wits very much about you, try not to allow yourself to be caught unaware. Do not expect your children to behave as though they were little adults.



**Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)**

Your commonsense and reason-ability will help you to avoid putting a foot wrong. You will have something personal to be pleased about. Do not leave a letter unanswered. Be tolerant.



**Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)**

You will be able to do something that will improve your health. By making a few concessions you will also get others to concede to you. Spend a little more time with your family and friends. Be respectful.



**Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)**

Your imagination is rather too little to carry you away so try to keep it within bounds. Do all you can to avoid creating confusion at home. Your lucky numbers are 16 and 12.



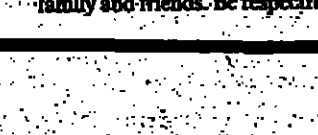
**Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)**

Not everything will proceed quite as you would wish but many things will. Do what has to be done and then try to take it more easy than you have been doing. Relax. A good opportunity may well pass you by but there will be others.



**Aries (March 20 - April 18)**

Do not allow some external event to upset your inner peace of mind. You should avoid doing anything silly if you can. So think a little longer and harder before acting. Be as good as your word.



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## China issues invitations to 38 for 1990 Asian Games

BEIJING, Sept. 22 (UPI): China issued formal invitations yesterday to 38 nations and territories for the 11th Asian Games in Beijing next year, but its chances for success remain clouded by the crackdown on the democracy movement and martial law in the capital.

Representatives of 34 of the 38 members of the Olympic Council of Asia were on hand for a ceremony at which the Beijing Asian Games organising committee issued the invitations. The other four were being mailed.

The Games, scheduled for September 1990, will be the first major international sporting event held in China, but their success has been placed in doubt by reaction to the brutal June military assault on pro-democracy protesters in Beijing.

The Chinese capital has been under martial law since May 20, and Chinese officials have refused to rule out the possibility that the Games might be played before martial law is lifted.

A smooth competition attended by all participants is seen as vital to China's regaining international credibility and to Chinese officials' known desire to bid to host the Olympics in the year 2000.

At a meeting with visiting representatives before the invitation ceremony, Wan Li, chairman of the National People's Congress, the nominal legislature, called for the Games to be a "great festival of unity, friendship and progress."

"With the support of the people of the whole country and the member federations of the Olympic Council of Asia, next year's Asian Games will be held successfully," Wan said.

The Asian Games are held every four years between Olympics. Next year's Games include 308 individual events in 27 competitive sports, ranging from athletics, tennis and soccer to tawar, yachting and martial arts.

None of the member nations has so far indicated an unwillingness to attend the Games, but China's preparations have also been troubled by construction delays at competition arenas and fields and by a budget shortfall.

The government has launched a nationwide lottery in a bid to raise more funds to complete the projects in time.

### Fourth title

ATHENS, Sept. 22 (Reuters): Soviet soldier Anatoli Kharapayev took his fourth successive world title with a confident display of strength at the World Weightlifting Championships yesterday.

The 1988 Olympic mid-heavyweight (up to 90 kg) champion, Kharapayev, won the snatch with a lift of only 185 kg, 10 below his personal best, but left his opponents behind with his favourite jerk lift.

## Iceland upset Turkey in World Cup qualifier

REYKJAVIK, Sept. 22 (Reuters): Iceland gained a surprise 2-1 win over Turkey in a World Cup soccer qualifier on Wednesday that almost certainly ended the visitors' hopes of winning through to the finals in Italy next year.

Feyyaz Ucar's goal in the 89th minute and

desperate attempts by Turkey in injury time were not enough to counter Petur Petursson's two second-half goals for Iceland.

Iceland, playing their last European Group Three match, have no chance of winning through to the finals in Italy themselves, but their win moved them from last to third place

in the tightly fought group.

Turkey now have five points from six matches, four behind the Soviet Union and two behind Austria with all three having two matches remaining.

The Turks, with a strong wind at their backs during the scoreless first half, kept up the pressure

on the Iceland goal but failed to find the net.

Gaining confidence, Iceland went on the attack in the second half and were rewarded with a goal in the 56th minute.

Sturttart's Asgeir Sigurvinsson set up Petursson who slid the ball past Turkey's

goalkeeper Engin Ipekoglu.

Turkey came close to equalising three minutes later with Recep Cetin's free kick hitting the post but Iceland went further ahead when Petursson turned a pass from Thorvaldur Orlyggsson into the net for his second in the 72nd minute.

## Italy beat Bulgaria in friendly

CESENA, Italy, Sept. 22 (UPI): Fiorentina's Roberto Baggio exploded for two goals and set up two more to lead 1990 World Cup host Italy to a 4-0 thrashing of Bulgaria in a friendly soccer international Wednesday night.

Baggio, substituting for the injured Roberto Donadoni, dominated the match and got Italy off to a solid start in the final autumn run-up campaign to the 1990 World Cup.

Baggio opened his hot streak in the 18th minute as he netted a penalty shot awarded after Napoli's Andrea Carnevale was tripped up by Bulgarian defender Ivanov, who got a yellow card for arguing with Belgian referee Constantini after the play.

The goal was Italy's 500th at home in a series which began in 1910 in Milan when the country beat France 6-2 in its first recorded international match.

In the 34th Baggio gathered in a pass from Sampdoria striker Gianluca Vialli at midfield, flipped the ball back to Vialli on the run, then took it back and dribbled flawlessly though the Bulgarian defense to score a picturebook goal.

Carnevale made it 3-0 for Italy with less than 30 seconds gone in the second half as he met a free kick from Baggio with perfect timing and shot clean from the right of the net.

Vialli all but scored Italy's insurance goal in the 53rd on a Baggio pass.

Vialli shot from 25 meters but Bulgarian Nikolai Iliev, who plays for Bologna in the Italian League, got a hand on the ball in desperation and deflected the shot into the net for own-goal.

Bulgaria threatened on several occasions with Iliev coming close in the second half. Baggio hit the post in the 36th.

The victory was Italian coach Azeglio Vicini's 20th since taking command four seasons ago. Italy next faces Brazil in Bologna Oct. 14th.

## Debus resigns for two years

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Sept. 22 (Reuters): The Athletics Congress (TAC) said on Wednesday that coach Chuck Debus, under investigation for allegedly giving athletes drugs to help their performances, will resign from the sport for two years.

TAC, which governs amateur athletics in the United States, said in a press release that Debus, who has coached the Los Angeles Track Club from 1971 through last year, will "not act as an athlete, coach, agent, manager, official or trainer in the sport."

TAC said that in a signed agreement between Debus and TAC, the coach denies charges he had "dispensed performance-enhancing substances to athletes" and that his resignation "shall not be deemed an admission of any wrong doing."

## Futre helps Portugal outlast Switzerland

Aguas scores winner

NEUCHÂTEL, Switzerland, Sept. 22 (AP): Portugal's Futre lent credence to his name Wednesday playing a devastating game to lead Portugal to a 2-1 come-from-behind victory over Switzerland in a World Cup Group 7 qualifier here.

The Atletico Madrid star, whose name in English means "lightning" not only ruined the Swiss national team debut for his marker Francois Rey, but he also scored the equalizer on a penalty kick in the 72nd minute and set up the winner with a neat cross to Rui Aguas five minutes later.

For most of the first half, the Swiss were well in command and took the lead in the 29th on a penalty kick converted by Kubiley Turkylmaz.

Twenty-year-old Stephane Chapuisat caused the penalty when he shook Jaime Magalhes loose, penetrated the area and was pulled down in a joint effort by Magalhes and Joao Pinto.

Futre came close to making the score 1-1 shortly afterwards but had his 14 metre drive diver-



Futre (right) got the first goal

ted by goalkeeper Martin Brunner's foot.

In the second half, the Por-

tuguese, needing desperately a win to pull even with Czechoslovakia in a contest for the

second qualifying spot behind group leader Belgium, heightened the pressure.

The Portuguese pressure paid off when Francois Rey pulled down Venancio a few metres in front of the goal and Greek referee George Koukoulakis awarded the Portuguese a penalty. Futre had Brunner jump one way and sent the ball in the other corner of the net.

Rui Aguas, who was brought in shortly before halftime as substitute for Magalhes, scored the winner a few minutes later as he directed a cross from Futre into the goal with his chest, despite tight coverage by Lucien Favre.

Line-ups: Switzerland: Brunner, Geiger, Francois Rey, Weber, Baumann, Piffaretti, Favre (77th herr), Hermann, Beat Sutter (69th zuffi), Turkylmaz.

Portugal: Silvino, Joao Pinto, Frederico, Magalhes (42nd Rui Aguas), Veloso, Vitor Pereira (90th Sobrinho), Andre, Nunes, Venancio, Rui Barros, Futre.

### Liverpool face Everton

## Huddersfield hold Forest to 1-1 draw

LONDON, Sept. 22 (Reuters): Holders Nottingham Forest were held to a 1-1 draw at home by Third Division Huddersfield in their English League Cup second round, first leg tie on Wednesday.

Forest took the lead when John Sheridan, playing his first match for the club after his move from Leeds, set up a ninth-minute goal for Gary Crosby.

Huddersfield equalised through Ken O'Doherty 20 minutes later and defended stubbornly for a draw.

Big-spending Manchester United gained an early return on their recent expensive investments Paul Ince and Danny Wallace as they beat Portsmouth 3-2 away. Ince scored twice and Wallace, making his debut, added the third as United swept into a 3-0 halftime lead.

Tottenham enjoyed some mild relief from their early-season headaches with a 1-0 win over Fourth Division leaders Southend, while First Division front-runners Norwich had even more problems at home to Third Division Rotherham who held them to a 1-1 draw.

Southampton beat York City 1-0 with a late goal from Rod Wallace whose brother Ray was sent off two minutes later following an apparent clash with a linesman.

Aston Villa saw off Midlands neighbours Wolves 2-1 while Charlton's Welsh international striker Andy Jones hit two goals in a 3-1 win over Hereford.

Aberdeen qualified to meet Rangers in the Scottish League Cup final with a hard-fought 1-0 win over Celtic at Hampden Park, summer signing Ian Cameron scoring 13 minutes from the end.

Celtic completed an unhappy night by having captain Roy Aitken sent off in the final second for a second bookable offence.

Meanwhile Liverpool and Everton renew their rivalry in an English First Division soccer match tomorrow that finds both at the top table with the 1989-90 season only a month old.

Everton, who will host the Merseyside clash at their Goodison Park ground, moved into top place last Saturday with a 1-0 victory at Charlton.

Liverpool, leaders a few days earlier after thrashing Crystal Palace 9-0, slipped when they



Paul Ince

were held to a scoreless draw at home to Norwich.

The managers of both sides were reluctant to get involved in championship talk after last weekend's matches.

Everton's Colin Harvey said: "There's a long way to go."

But tomorrow afternoon the eyes of the rest of the Division will be fixed on the city of Liverpool, where two First Division teams have dominated English football this decade despite last season's hiccup in which London's Arsenal won the title.

Results: English League Cup second round, first leg:

Aston Villa	2	Wolves	1
Charlton	3	Hereford	1
Exeter	3	Blackburn	0
Middlesbrough	4	Reading	0
Norwich	1	Rotherham	1
Nottingham	1	Huddersfield	1
Portsmouth	2	Manchester U	3
QPR	2	Stockport	1
Sheffield Wed	0	Aldershot	0
Tottenham	1	Southend	0
West Bromwich	1	Bradford	3
York	0	Southampton	1

(Second legs to be played October 3-4)

Scottish League Cup semifinal:

Aberdeen	1	Celtic	0
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(Winner plays Rangers in final on October 22)

## Athletics increase lead

NEW YORK, Sept. 22 (AP): Mark McGwire broke a career-long metrodom slump with a home run and a double as the Oakland Athletics increased their AL West lead to 31/2 games by beating the Minnesota Twins 2-1 last night.

Bob Welch, Rick Honeycutt and Dennis Eckersley combined on a six-hitter in helping the Athletics pick up a game on California. Which lost at Cleveland. Welch, 17-8, allowed all six hits by the Twins before Honeycutt came on with two outs in the eighth. Then Eckersley pitched the ninth for his 31st save.

McGwire's fifth-inning solo homer was his first in 48 at-bats here. The Metrodome, where McGwire has hit just 130, was the only American League Park in which McGwire had not homered.

Welch's victory made the A's the first team since the 1971 Baltimore Orioles to have four pitchers win at least 17 games. Dave Stewart has 19 wins and Mike Moore and Storm Davis each have 18. Those Orioles had four 20-game winners.

Kirby Puckett had two infield hits in four at-bats, moving his average to an AL-high .343. Oakland's Carney Lansford was 3-for-4 and is up to .338.

Indians 5, Angeles 4, 17 innings

Brook Jacoby's sacrifice fly in the bottom of the 17th inning scored pinch runner Tommy Hinzo in

the AL's longest game of the season, dropping California 3 1-2 games out in the AL West. The Angels, who had a four-game winning streak snapped, have nine games to go. Oakland has 10 left.

Cleveland snapped a six-game losing streak in the 5-hour, 26-minute game.

The Angels scored three runs with two outs in the top of the ninth to tie the game 4-4. Wally Joyner and Chili Davis led off with singles before Doug Jones retired the next two batters.

Brewers 14, Yankees 1

Don Mattingly's 10th-inning two-run homer tied the Yankees to the split after they were routed in the opener.

### Results

American League			
1. Milwaukee Brewers	14	New York Mets	1
2. New York Yankees	5	Milwaukee Brewers	4
Cleveland Indians	5	California Angels	4
Oakland Athletics	2	Minnesota Twins	1
Seattle Mariners	8	Texas Rangers	3
National League			
San Diego Padres	11	Cincinnati Reds	7
Chicago Cubs	9	Philadelphia Phillies	1
Atlanta Braves	3	Houston Astros	0
Montreal Expos	6	Pittsburgh Pirates	5
New York Mets	6	St. Louis Cardinals	1
San Francisco Giants	4	Los Angeles Dodgers	3

## Langer rated slowest player on PGA Tour

NEW YORK, Sept. 22 (Reuters): Bernhard Langer is by far the slowest player on the PGA Tour, according to a study published in the latest issue of a leading golf magazine.

"The typical Tour player takes about 35 seconds a shot," Golf magazine said in its October issue. "Langer averaged 59 seconds the other slowpokes were between 45 and 55 seconds."

The West German, a former Masters champion who has a history of putting problems, was judged to be the tortoise of the Tour after the magazine timed 20 reputedly slow players at four tournaments.

Britain's Nick Faldo, the current Masters champion and former winner of the British Open, and Americans Ben Crenshaw, Fred Couples and Tom Sieckmann were also named to the magazine's "all-slow" team.

Langer was rated the slowest driver after averaging 45.6 seconds to make his tee shot, followed by Crenshaw on 43.6 seconds. The West German was also listed as the slowest putter at 85.2 seconds, with Faldo next at 73.1.

Faldo was judged the slowest at hitting approach shots at an average of 53.1 seconds. Crenshaw was second at 49.1 seconds and Langer third at 46.4.

"Slow play on iron shots is



Bernhard Langer

generally caused by indecision in club selection, and nobody takes longer to make up his mind than Nick Faldo," the magazine said.

"Langer slows to a painful crawl on the greens as he surveys every putt from all possible angles and then takes time to digest the information before standing over the ball and making the stroke," it continued.

"Ben Crenshaw is mail's pace slow on drives and approach shots, sometimes appearing reluctant to pull the trigger."

## Fehr shares Southern lead

COLUMBUS, Ga., Sept. 22 (Reuters): Rick Fehr birdied three of the last four holes to tie Steve Pate and Billy Andrade for the first-round lead at the \$400,000 Southern Open golf tournament yesterday.

Fehr, Pate and Andrade all posted rounds of six-under-par 64, with Kenny Knox one stroke away. Eight golfers, including Corey Pavin and Tim Simpson, were another shot back at 66.

David Frost, the defending champion, stood at even-par 70. Fehr made four long putts, from distances of 35, 12, 25 and 20 feet, on the incoming nine as he carded a 31.

"I made some putts I shouldn't have made," he said, "but I missed a few from inside 10 feet that I should have made. But I'm pleased with the way the round went."

Pate had seven birdies and only one bogey. He gained the stroke he needed for a share of the lead at the par-five 18th. He reached the green with a three-wood second shot and two-putted from 20 feet.



Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries.



## SPORTS

## Track star denies accusations

## Flo-Jo accused of taking drugs

NEW YORK, Sept. 22, (AP): Florence Griffith Joyner, accused by Darrell Robinson of buying growth hormones from him, yesterday called the sprinter "a compulsive, crazy, lying, lunatic."

"I don't do drugs," Griffith Joyner, also known as Flo-Jo, said. "I never have taken any drugs. I don't believe in them. It's a false accusation."

Robinson detailed his dealings with the 1988 Olympic heroine and other track and field athletes and coaches, including Carl Lewis, in the West German magazine Stern.

A copy of the story was made available to the Associated Press on Wednesday night and Robinson repeated the charges yesterday on the "Today" show on US television network NBC.

Griffith Joyner, accompanied by her husband Al Joyner, the 1984 Olympic triple jump champion, and business manager Gordon Baskin, flew from her California home to New York for the early morning show in hopes of meeting her accuser.

Robinson failed to show up, although the two confronted each other via a hookup from his



Flo-Jo: calls Robinson a liar

Toronto home. The rhetoric was bitter. "How can you have the

nerve...to tell a false lie?" Griffith Joyner said angrily. "She says she didn't take them

(drugs)," Robinson said. "It's my word against hers."

"You admitted taking drugs and why do you want to implicate other athletes?" Griffith Joyner said.

Robinson, who reportedly received at least \$25,000 for the magazine story, which was published yesterday, and money for appearing on the television show, insisted he was "not doing it just for the money."

"The money issue isn't an issue," he said. "I am sick and tired of hearing everyone saying they're clean."

Robinson, the 1986 national champion at 400 metres and the 1982 and 1983 runner-up, contended in the magazine story that Griffith Joyner asked him to get growth hormones for her last year, because "I have connections."

He said she paid him \$2000 in 20 \$100 bills and the transaction took place in mid-March 1988 on Venice Boulevard in Los Angeles.

"I never gave him a dime for anything," Griffith Joyner responded. "Why meet him on Venice Boulevard? The only place I

met him was on the track. I have never run into Darrell on the street."

"I don't know how he's going to back this up."

This was not the first time that drug accusations were made about Griffith Joyner, who rocketed into international fame in 1988 after being a world-class runner for years but never a star.

At last year's Seoul Olympics, where she won gold medals in the 100- and 200-metre dashes and the 400-metre relay, along with a silver in the 1,600-metre relay, the accuser was Brazilian Joaquim Cruz, the 1984 Olympic 800-metre champion.

Later, she was accused by Lewis, a six-time Olympic gold medalist; Evelyn Ashford, a three-time gold medalist, and Pat Connolly, Ashford's former coach of Renaldo Nehemiah, ex-coach and new world record-holder in the 110-metre high hurdles.

"This is so horrendously wrong," Baskin said. "When are they going to stop hitting on this girl? This young lady has never used drugs. This man, from what they tell me, is a compulsive liar."

## Eid Falah scores easy win

REIGNING Kuwait champion Eid Falah drove to an easy victory in the opening round of the Kuwait National Rally Championship yesterday.

Eid Falah and co-driver Sadeq Ashkanani took the fastest times on all the stages in their Nissan Patrol and finished the rally nearly eight minutes ahead of second-placed Tareq Al Alyan and Khouloud Al Alyan in a Daihatsu Rocky.

Eid Falah and Sadeq slowed down towards the end of the rally after realising that the other drivers were far behind and had no chance of catching them. The Nissan Patrol they were driving was a new vehicle straight from the showroom and has still to go for its first service.

Ali Barami and Mohammed Al Zaid took third place after finishing 39 seconds behind the Alyans in a Daihatsu Charade.

Fourth place went to Mofeed Ali and Sa'ad Al Melfi who drove a Datsun 200SX and fifth were Muntaz Shah and Brian Fernandez in a Hyundai Pony.

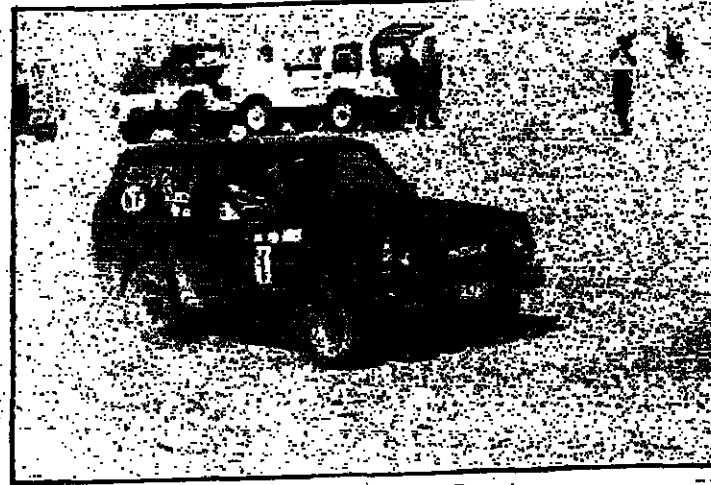
Only nine drivers out of the 21 who started the rally finished the event. The other finishers were Hassan Kerki, Younis Ali, Samir Al Hussein and Nasir Ghouloum.

The other started at 9:00 am from the Kuwait International Hotel and finished at the same place at 5:00 pm.

130 kilometres of this 230-kilometre rally was held on unpaved roads in the Mutla and Subiya areas. The special stages were grouped into two sections with six stages in the first and four in the second.

## Results

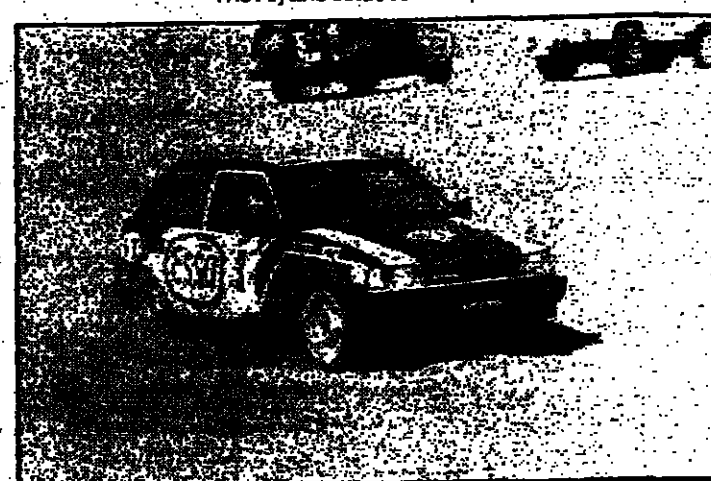
Provisional results of the first round of the Kuwait National Rally Championships: 1. Eid Falah & Sadeq Ashkanani, Nissan Patrol — 1:33:47; 2. Tareq Al Alyan & Khouloud Al Alyan, Daihatsu Rocky — 1:41:31; 3. Ali Barami & Mohammed Al Zaid, Daihatsu Charade — 1:42:10; 4. Mofeed Ali & Sa'ad Al Melfi, Datsun 200SX, 1:49:31; 5. Muntaz Shah & Brian Fernandez, Hyundai Pony — 1:56:35



Eid Falah in his Nissan Patrol



The Alyans settle for 2nd place



Barami tries to catch Tareq Al Alyan. (Photos by Ahmed Barouni)

## SPORTS BRIEFS

## Soccer history

ROME, Sept. 22, (Reuters): Italian film director Franco Zeffirelli said Wednesday he planned to make a six-hour television series on the history of world soccer called "The World is a Football."

## W. German soccer

BONN, Sept. 22, (Reuters): Results in the West German First Division on Wednesday: Hamburg 4 Werder B 0 Stuttgart 2 Bayern M 1 Bochum 0 Bayer L 2 Cologne 2 Nuremberg 1 Waldhof Man. 2 Borussia 1

## Forest profit

LONDON, Sept. 22, (Reuters): Nottingham Forest will collect a profit of £700,000 (\$1.1 million) after agreeing to sell central defender Colin Foster to English Second Division club West Ham yesterday.

## Soccer fans

LONDON, Sept. 22, (Reuters): The head of Italy's World Cup organising committee, Luca di Montezemolo, said yesterday it would be impossible to segregate soccer fans from different countries at next year's finals.

## Soccer players

ZURICH, Sept. 22, (Reuters): The number of Eastern European soccer players signing for foreign clubs may be reduced following the decision of Poland and the Soviet Union to inform the International Football Federation (FIFA) that their best players are no longer amateurs.

## Clean sweep

DUBLIN, Sept. 22, (Reuters): Sheikh Mohammed makes a determined bid tomorrow to complete a unique clean sweep of this season's Irish classics with three of his horses challenging for the Irish St Leger.

## Mercedes Mile

NEW YORK, Sept. 22, (AP): Said Aouita and Abdi Bile, considered the two best middle-distance runners in the world, have met only three times in four years and not at all in the last two. That drought could end tomorrow in the Mercedes Mile on Fifth Avenue — if the elusive Aouita shows up.

## LPGA event

BUENA PARK, Calif., Sept. 22, (Reuters): Sherri Turner and Lisa Walters both posted five-under-par 67s yesterday to share the opening-round lead in a \$300,000 LPGA event played over the 6,351-yard (5,800 metre) Los Coyotes Country Club.

## Grove triumphs

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J., Sept. 22, (AP): Junior lightweight Calvin Grove remained in world title contention by taking a 10-round unanimous decision over Ed Pollard last night.

## Singapore Open

SINGAPORE, Sept. 22, (Reuters): Semifinal results in the Singapore Open squash championship today (prefix number denotes seeding):

Men  
1-Jansher Khan (Pakistan) beat 4-Chris Robertson (Australia) 12-15 10-15 15-9 15-6. 2-Chris Dittmar (Australia) beat 3-Rodney Martin (Australia) 15-6 15-6 17-15.

Women  
1-Lisa Opie (England) beat 4-Michelle Martin (Australia) 17-14 15-17 16 10-15 15-6. 5-Danielle Drady (Australia) beat 8-Lucy Soutter (England) 15-9 15-12 15-9.

## Blood test

LONDON, Sept. 22, (Reuters): Nashwan's participation in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe horse race after the first defeat of his career last Sunday still hung in the balance yesterday after a blood test proved inconclusive. Another sample is to be studied next week before a final decision is taken on whether the dual classic winner will run at Longchamp on October 8.

## US strike first blood

SUTTON COLDFIELD, England, Sept. 22, (Reuters): The United States, desperate to regain the Ryder Cup from Europe after two successive defeats, won the opening four-somes 3-1 when the 28th edition of the Biennial golf match began today.

The Americans won two of the four contests and halved the other two. Three of the four encounters went to the final hole.

Veteran Lanny Wadkins, one of US captain Ray Floyd's two personal selections in his 12-man team, was the US hero. He sank a 45-foot pitch shot from just off the green at the 17th for an eagle three that led to a one hole victory for him and his partner, US PGA champion Payne Stewart, over English pair Howard Clark and Mark James.

British Open champion Mark Calcavecchia and Ken Green led all the way against erratic Briton Ronan Rafferty. Europe's only rookie, and West German Bernhard Langer, winning two and one.

In the opening tie, US Open champion Curtis Strange and Tom Kite halved with US Masters winner Nick Faldo and British compatriot Ian Woosnam.

The other halved match was between Americans Tom Watson and Chip Beck against Spaniards Seve Ballesteros and Jose Maria Olazabal.

Both captains made changes for the afternoon fourball contest. Floyd introduced his four remaining players as partners for four of the eight who played in the morning.

European captain Tony Jacklin stayed with three of his pairs but substituted Scotland's Sam Torrance and Gordon Brand Jr for Langer and Rafferty.

"It has been a marvellous morning and I feel really happy," said Floyd.

Jacklin said: "Three matches going to the last tells you how tight it was."

In spite of a poor season on the US Tour, Wadkins was picked for his experience in five previous Ryder Cup campaigns.

He underlined Floyd's wisdom by holding from 12 feet at the fifth before his superb chip at 17.

Clark needed an 18-foot putt at the last for a half, but left it two feet short.

Debutant Rafferty showed severe Ryder Cup nerves that were evident from the start when his drive found a bunker.

Calcavecchia and Green, who Floyd says have "marvellous chemistry," won the US two holes and were three up after nine. They even managed a half at the 550-yard par-five 15th despite a double bogey seven.

Calcavecchia said: "We made a couple of dumb mistakes at the seventh and 13th holes, but that doesn't matter now."

Faldo cuffed in a nine-foot putt at the second hole and smacked an eight-iron to three feet at the third as he and Woosnam went two up on Strange and Kite. But the Americans won four successive holes from the seventh, where Strange holed from 22 feet.

## Brazil lead US in world bridge final

PERTH, Australia, Sept. 22, (Reuters): An embattled United States team more than held Brazil as the Bermuda Bowl world bridge final passed halfway today.

Brazil went into the night session leading the defending champions by 227 international match points to 194 with only one more session remaining tomorrow.

Brazil's stamina was holding out after eight more days of contention than the United States. But their lead was owed partly to a stroke of luck when they bid the wrong slam contract and made it while United States bid the right slam and failed.

A see-saw battle in the shorter contest for the Venice Cup has the United States leading the Netherlands by 246 to 237 with 32 boards left to play.

In a judgement of Solomon, the appeals committee ruled against both parties in an overnight protest in the Venice Cup final.

Beth Palmer of Silver Spring, Maryland, denied hesitating when playing a singleton, causing the Netherlands to misplay.

## Reny Joseph and Reny John capture crowns

RENY JOSEPH and Reny John won the men's and women's singles titles respectively at the Indian Arts Circle (IAC) badminton tournament on Thursday evening.

Reny Joseph hardly worked up any sweat when he beat his brother Reji 15-8 15-8 in a match devoid of any excitement. The crowd felt that the match was not played in a competitive spirit as Reji had a doubles match after this game and did not want to exert himself.

In the women's singles Reny John was made to fight for victory before she could claim the crown. John won the first set easily 11-5 and seemed set for an easy match when Gina Anthony fought back and took the second set 12-10 to level the match and set up an exciting third set.

Reny John and Gina Anthony shared the honours until the very end in a set full of long rallies and excellent shots from both the players. Reny John, however, prevailed over her opponent in the end and won 12-9.

Gina, however, gained her revenge later on when she joined Bijoy M. to beat Reny John and John Kurian in the mixed doubles to take the title. Gina and Bijoy lost the first set 13-15 after putting up a great fight but made



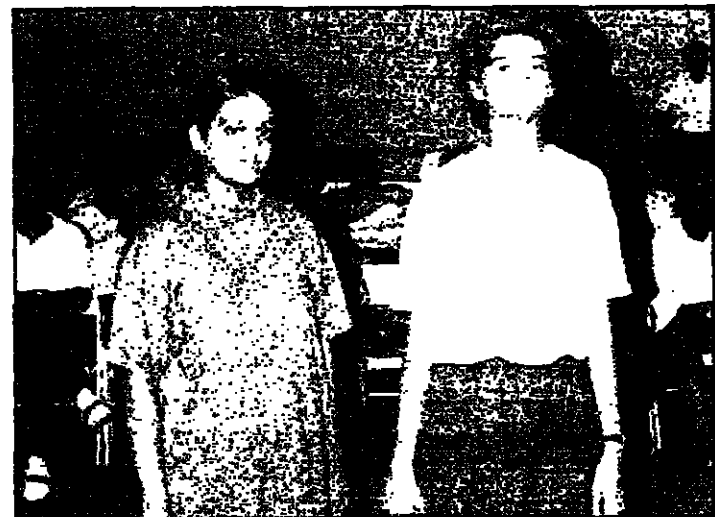
Reny Joseph: men's singles champion



Reny John: ladies singles champion



Gina Anthony



Viji Kutty (left) and Asha Kutty: ladies doubles champions

sure of taking the second set 15-13 to even the match. The third set proved an anti-climax compared to the first two sets but still had enough to keep the spectators glued to their seats as Gina and Bijoy outplayed their

opponents to take the set 17-7 and with it also the match. Reji Joseph also collected one title when he joined Cherry George in the men's doubles finals in a 18-13 15-7 victory over Siva Kumar and Mathew N.C.

The junior boys singles seemed to be a one-sided affair when Suresh Ramchandran took the first set 15-4 from Geku George but the latter put up a fight in the second. Suresh finally won 15-10 in the second to take the title.

Asha Kutty and Viji Kutty also went home with a trophy after 15-7 15-11 victory over Suja Verghese and Reney Tharian in the women's doubles.

The junior girls singles title was taken by Simi Mathew after she was awarded a walkover against Anju Abraham.

Bal Sharma was the only competitor who walked away from the competition with two crowns. He first had an easy time in the veterans singles when M.M. Joshi conceded the match after trailing 4-13 in the first.

Sharma, however, had to play the whole game in his veterans doubles match. Sharma and Jacob Mathew beat M.M. Joshi & G.S. Playa 15-3 15-12 to emerge victorious.

The last title of the tournament was taken by Suja Verghese and Verghese Joseph. Both these players beat Reney Tharian and Bobby Tharian 15-10 15-3 in the couples doubles final.

In the closing ceremonies Vijay Sharma, the hon. secretary of IAC, made the welcome speech.

The prizes were awarded to the winners by H.V. Rankaswamy, managing director of Kuwait India International Exchange Company — the sponsors of the tournament.

The vote of thanks was made by P.K. Koshy, convener of the organising committee of the tournament.

The trophy for the gents singles was offered by Mrs Susan John, in the memory of her late husband, John Thomas.



Cherry George (left) and Reji Joseph: men's doubles champions

## Senna takes provisional Grand Prix pole spot

NICOSIA, Cyprus, Sept. 22, (AP): Belgian Robert Droogmans withdrew early in the first stage of the Rothman's Cyprus Rally today, handing the 1989 European Rally Championship to Frenchman Yves Loubet.

No reason was immediately given by race authorities for Droogmans' withdrawal.

Seventy cars roared off from downtown Nicosia today on the first grueling leg of the rally, a 150-mile (236-kilometre) stage through the Troodos mountains.

First off the ramp at Nicosia's museum square was Fabrizio Tabaton of Italy, last year's European champion who clinched the trophy in Cyprus, heading the griffone team of Lancia Integrale.

Droogmans had a chance to catch up if he won and Lobet failed to finish. But it was Droogmans, who changed from a Ford Sierra to the Corgworth at the last minute, who withdrew, removing his chance to close the gap.

ESTORIL, Portugal, Sept. 22, (UPI): Brazilian world champion Ayrton Senna, driving faultlessly in his McLaren around a wind-swept racetrack, posted the fastest time today in the first official practice session for Sunday's Portuguese Formula One Grand Prix.

Senna clocked 1 minute and 15.496 seconds on the 4.35 km circuit, easily beating the unofficial lap record of 1:16.673 he set with the discontinued turbo-charged model in 1986.

World championship leader Alain Prost, Senna's French McLaren teammate, could not manage better than the fifth fastest time of 1:17.336, almost two seconds slower than the Brazilian.

Before the start of the practice, held under sunny skies and with temperatures around 20 degrees Celsius, the McLaren team issued a statement saying Prost had received assurances he will get the same treatment and equipment as Senna.

After the Italian Grand Prix two weeks ago, Prost, who has signed with Ferrari for next season, accused his team and Honda of favouring Senna.

Senna needs three wins and at least a fourth place in the last four Grand Prix races to prevent Prost from getting his third world driver's title.

The statement signed jointly by McLaren managing director Ron Dennis, Honda publicity manager Y. Noguchi and Prost himself also said the driver regretted the furor caused by his remarks at Monza.

Austrian Gerhard Berger, driving a Ferrari, clocked the second best time of the day with 1:16.799, more than a second slower than Senna who is almost virtually assured of the 40th pole position of his career.

Italian Pierluigi Martini surprisingly put his Minardi in the provisional second row of the grid with a time of 1:16.938, ahead of countryman Riccardo Patrese timed at 1:17.281 at the wheel of the brand-new Williams FW13, which has a more powerful Renault engine.

Meanwhile, Briton Nigel Mansell escaped injury when he was involved in a high-speed accident.

Mansell, in a Ferrari, was on a slowing down lap midway through the session when a Rial driven by West German Christian Danner went out of control and struck his car.

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